



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

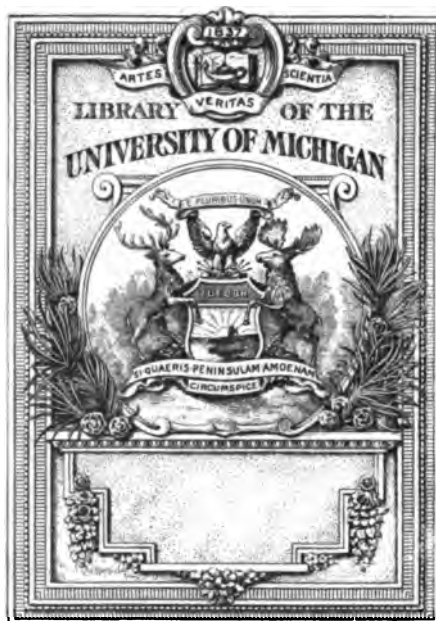
Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>



J
301
K6

4517

ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

SEVENTY-SEVEN VOLUMES.

— (10.) —


COLONIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS;
COLONIAL REPORTS (ANNUAL);
BAHAMAS TO GRENADA.

Session

16 *January* 1902 — 18 *December* 1902.

VOL. LXIV.

1902.



ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

1902.

SEVENTY-SEVEN VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE TENTH VOLUME.

N.B.—*THE* Figures at the beginning of the line, *correspond with the N° at the foot of each Paper; and the Figures at the end of the line, refer to the MS. Paging of the Volumes arranged for The House of Commons.*

COLONIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS:

[Cd. 788.] Colonial Reports (Annual):—

Bahamas:

- ✓ No. 365. Report on the Bahamas for 1901–1902 (with a Report on the Salt Industry of Inagua). p. 1

Barbados:

- ✓ No. 368. Report on Barbados for 1901–1902. 43

Basutoland:

- ✓ No. 343. Report on Basutoland for 1900–1901. 99

Bermuda:

- ✓ No. 354. Report on Bermuda for 1901. 147

British Guiana:

- ✓ No. 349. Report on British Guiana for 1900–1901. 171

British Honduras:

- ✓ No. 339. Report on British Honduras for 1900. 203
✓ No. 362. Report on British Honduras for 1901. 231

British New Guinea:

- ✓ No. 336. Report on British New Guinea for 1899–1900. 263

British Solomon Islands:

- ✓ No. 347. Report on the British Solomon Islands for 1900–1901. 315
✓ No. 372. Report on the British Solomon Islands for 1901–1902. 335

Ceylon:

- ✓ No. 341. Report on Ceylon for 1900. 359
✓ No. 367. Report on Ceylon for 1901. 407

VOL. LXIV.—1902.

Cocos Islands :

- ✓ No. 352. Report on the Cocos Islands for 1901. p 463
✓ No. 370. Report on the Cocos Islands for 1902. 483

Falkland Islands :

- ✓ No. 334. Report on the Falkland Islands for 1900. 492
✓ No. 356. Report on the Falkland Islands for 1901. 515

Fiji :

- ✓ No. 331. Report on Fiji for 1900. 533
✓ No. 366. Report on Fiji for 1901. 557

Gambia :

- ✓ No. 355. Report on Gambia for 1901. 575

Gibraltar :

- ✓ No. 342. Report on Gibraltar for 1900. 607
✓ No. 359. Report on Gibraltar for 1901. 625

Gold Coast :

- ✓ No. 344. Report on the Gold Coast for 1900. 643
No. 375. Report on the Gold Coast for 1901. 669

Northern Territories of the Gold Coast :

- ✓ No. 357. Report on the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast for 1901. 705

Grenada :

- ✓ No. 345. Report on Grenada for 1900. 729
-

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 365.

BAHAMAS.

REPORT FOR 1901-2

(WITH A REPORT ON THE SALT INDUSTRY
OF INAGUA).

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 327.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-35.] *Price* 2½*d.*

The following, among other, Reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title-page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
345	Grenada	1900
346	Northern Nigeria	1900-1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900-1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900-1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900
354	Bermuda	1901
355	Gambia	"
356	Falkland Islands	"
357	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
358	Malta	"
359	Gibraltar	"
360	Straits Settlements	"
361	Sierra Leone	"
362	British Honduras	"
363	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
364	Seychelles	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
20	Wei Hai Wei	General Report.

No. 365.

BAHAMAS.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 327.)

ACTING GOVERNOR CHURCHILL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
Nassau,
12th August, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith my Report on the
Bahamas Blue Book for the year 1901-2.

I have, &c.,
J. S. CHURCHILL,
Administrator.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE BAHAMAS FOR THE YEAR 1901-2.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

In consequence of the decision arrived at to adapt the compilation of the Blue Book Returns to the financial year as it is computed in the United Kingdom and now in most of the Colonies it has been necessary to add to the returns of the calendar year 1901 the statistics for the first quarter of the year 1902, so that the Blue Book returns now under review are for fifteen months, and no very effective comparison with those of the previous Blue Book (for 1900) is possible.

The following are the totals of revenue and expenditure for the above-mentioned period.

Total revenue for 1901 and first quarter of 1902,
£97,791 8s. 1d.

Total expenditure for 1901 and first quarter of 1902,
£105,352 17s.

The above figures show an apparent excess of expenditure of £7,561 8s. 11d., but the statements of revenue and expenditure in the Blue Book do not include balances brought forward from the previous year nor advances and deposits which although not revenue and expenditure must be taken into calculation for the balancing of the account.

It will be seen on perusal of the following memorandum that a balance of £13,559 2s. had been carried over to account of general revenue on 31st December, 1900, which, with deposits and repayments of advances bring up the total to £113,017 4s. 10d., whilst the expenditure with the addition of advances and repayments of deposits is brought up to £107,052, and the balance carried over on 31st March, 1902, is £5,965 0s. 10d. to the credit of general revenue.

BAHAMAS, 1901-2.

5

Revenue.		Expenditure.	
Balance on 31st December 1900	£ s. d.	Expenditure from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902.	105,352 17 0
Revenue from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March 1902.	13,559 2 0	Advances from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902.	716 13 11
	97,791 8 1	Repayment of deposits	982 13 1
Deposits from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902.	111,350 10 1		107,052 4 0
Repayment of advances	1,000 14 2	Balance on 31st March, 1902:—	
	666 0 7	Chest	£ s. d.
		Out-islands	5,020 2 1
		Crown Agents	181 2 6
			763 16 3
			5,965 0 10
	£113,017 4 10		£113,017 4 10

With regard to the following comparative statements of revenue and expenditure the amounts shown in the columns denoting increase of revenue and expenditure respectively are such as might be expected to accrue during the extra quarter of a year from 1st January to 31st March, 1901, but there are a few items with regard to which some special remarks are required.

In the Post Office department the increase in both revenue and expenditure is influenced by the fact that the additional quarter for which the returns are made up, being also the first quarter of the year, is the time when the Post Office business and receipts are always largely increased, and on the expenditure side particularly as the full subsidy to the southern steam service, £3,500, is paid in the March quarter.

The expenditure under this head also included an extra item of £198 14s. paid to the Bahamas S.S. Co., as a gratuity for conveyance of mails to and from New York for several years.

Under the head of "Charitable Institutions" an expenditure of £2,100 is included which was incurred by the building of a new infirmary. Such expenditure would usually come under the Head of Public Works but under the peculiar enactments of the Act constituting the New Providence Asylum the Commissioners are invested with full powers as to the buildings of the Institution and the expenses are therefore charged as ordinary expenditure on the Asylum.

An increase of £10,289 1s. 8d. in the expenditure on Public Works is greater than could be accounted for by three months' additional expenditure of the ordinary kind and it is therefore necessary to point out that a sum of £4,077 8s. 9d. was expended for the erection of a new public market in 1901 and the appropriations to various Boards for less important works were unusually large.

A decrease in the charges on account of public debt has been brought about by the action of the Government in 1900 when surplus funds, already invested, to the amount of £10,000 were converted into a sinking fund for the reduction of the loan of £48,126 under Act of Assembly 63 Vic., cap. 7—a contribution from general revenue of £900 being made annually and applied to the same purpose.

12526 COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of REVENUE collected during the Year 1900 and the period of FIFTEEN MONTHS ending 31st March, 1902.

Heads of Revenue.			Amount Collected in the year 1900.			Amount Collected in the year 1901 and the 1st quarter of 1902.			Increase.			Decrease.		
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs	...	...	67,992	9	11	81,838	6	7	13,845	16	8	—	—	—
Port, harbour, and light dues	...	...	867	3	2	1,098	15	10	231	12	8	—	—	—
Licences and internal revenue not otherwise classified	...	...	2,823	3	8	5,864	15	6	3,041	10	10	—	—	—
Fees of court or office, payments for specific purposes, &c.	...	...	2,632	14	8	4,466	16	0	1,834	1	4	—	—	—
Post office and telegraphs	...	...	2,301	14	3	3,703	14	0	1,401	19	9	—	—	—
Rents from Government property	...	...	135	0	0	255	0	0	120	0	0	—	—	—
Contributions to Widows and Orphans' Fund...	...	...	204	19	5	246	5	2	41	5	9	—	—	—
Miscellaneous receipts	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Petty receipts and unforeseen items of revenue	...	...	57	4	1	95	14	6	38	10	5	—	—	—
Interest on investments under Surplus Monies Act, 1898	...	...	430	14	8	242	0	6	—	—	—	188	14	2
Investments realized	...	...	78,651	4	4	97,791	8	1						
Sale of Government lands	...	...	10,000	0	0	—	—	—						
			208	6	8									
Total	...	...	88,859	11	0	97,791	8	1						

A 4

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of EXPENDITURE during the Year 1900, and the PERIOD of FIFTEEN MONTHS ending 31st MARCH, 1902.

Head of Service.	Expenditure, 1900.	Expenditure for 1901 and the first quarter of 1902.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charges on account of Public Debt.	16,614 0 8	11,206 5 8	—	5,407 15 0
2. Pensions, Treasury ...	4,233 10 5	5,345 19 8	1,112 8 10	—
3. House of Assembly ...	676 11 9	987 14 8	311 2 6	—
4. Legislative Council ...	70 0 0	87 3 4	17 3 4	—
5. Governor and Staff ...	1,245 0 0	1,556 5 0	311 5 0	—
6. Colonial Secretary's Department.	1,109 15 3	1,429 9 4	319 14 1	—
7. Receiver General's Department.	3,474 8 8	3,869 18 11	395 15 3	—
8. Judicial Department ...	6,114 17 2	7,951 19 9	1,837 2 7	—
9. Registrar's Department	505 8 0	638 7 10	132 19 10	—
10. Constabulary and Police	5,933 13 1	6,960 13 7	1,027 0 6	—
11. Fire Department ...	259 8 7	1,401 0 9	1,141 12 2	—
12. Surveyor-General's Department.	336 10 0	491 15 0	155 5 0	—
13. Audit Department ...	350 0 0	491 3 8	141 3 8	—
14. Post Office Department	6,968 10 4	11,324 5 0	4,355 14 8	—
15. Telegraph and Telephone Department.	1,071 19 3	1,247 16 3	175 17 0	—
16. Ecclesiastical Department.	757 0 0	819 18 1	62 18 1	—
17. Education Department	6,000 0 0	7,222 10 0	1,222 10 0	—
18. Public Libraries ...	483 15 0	463 12 4	—	20 2 8
19. Port and Marine Department.	1,331 16 11	2,281 5 10	449 8 11	—
20. Medical Department ...	588 0 6	1,004 9 1	421 8 7	—
21. Charitable Institutions	5,806 10 11	9,606 15 7	3,800 4 8	—
22. Prisons ...	1,569 1 9	2,170 9 2	601 7 5	—
23. Public Works ...	12,111 10 1	22,400 11 9	10,289 1 8	—
24. Miscellaneous ...	4,301 17 3	4,354 19 1	53 1 10	—
	82,408 0 7	105,314 8 1	22,834 5 2	5,427 17 8
Surplus Monies Act, 1897.	115 2 3	38 0 0	—	77 2 3
Erection of New Barracks.	314 1 11	0 8 11	—	313 13 0
Total ...	82,837 4 9	105,352 17 0	22,334 5 2	5,818 12 11

The total revenue and expenditure for the four years 1897-1900 and the total for the fifteen months including the year 1901 and the first quarter of 1902 is given below:

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Remarks.
	£	£	
1897	62,754	63,405	
1898	74,382	64,148	
1899	76,697	68,748	
1900	78,651	82,837	
1901-2	97,791	105,352	Revenue and Expenditure for 15 months from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902.

(C.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.
The following is a statement of the assets and liabilities on the 31st March, 1902:--

Assets.	—	Liabilities.	—
Cash in chest	£ 5,020	On current accounts	£ 743
Balance in hands of Out-island Collectors and in transit.	181	Savings Bank (due to depositors including interest to 31st December, 1901).	17,153
Balance in hands of Crown Agents	763		13
Investments on account of Surplus Funds	5,720		7
Investments on account of Hotel Fund	8,177		
Cash on deposit	775		
Savings Bank (invested)	16,729		
Crown Agents...	5		
Income Tax	64		
Savings Bank balance cash	887		
Cable Repair Fund (invested)	7,574		
Total	45,900	Total	17,897
	5 11		2 10

(D.) PUBLIC

The total public debt is now £111,626 0s. 2d., and the following separate loans which constitute the debt, and the provision made

Debt.	To whom due.	Rate of Interest.	When incurred and for what cause.
£ s. d. 27,500 0 0	Various persons	£4 10s. per cent.	In 1885.—The failure of the Nassau Public Bank to liquidate certain claims against the Government.
48,126 0 2	Various persons	£4 per cent.	In 1888.—For the purpose of reducing outstanding debentures which had from time to time been issued within these islands.
30,000 0 0	Various persons	£4 per cent.	January, 1892.—Telegraph communication between the Bahamas Islands and parts beyond the limits of the Colony.
6,000 0 0	—	£3 per cent.	1896.
£111,626 0 2			

DEBT.

ing tabular statement shows the particulars respecting the four in each case for payment.

Provision for payment of Interest or Sinking Fund, and enactments by which it is made.	Amount of original Debt.	Amount repaid.	Remarks
Principal and interest secured from General Revenue and Assets of the Colony. The interest on the total nominal amount of debentures issued under the Act and the Sinking Fund (10s. per centum on original debt) are paid half-yearly to the Crown Agents, and by them used in payment of the interest on outstanding debentures, expenses of advertisements, &c., and the remainder invested by them and applied towards reducing the debts either by purchase in the open market or by annual drawings. (48 & 49 Vic., cap. 24.)	£ 35,000 0 0	£ 7,500 0 0	Six debentures of £100 each are drawn for payment by the Crown Agents every year. The twelfth annual drawing took place in 1901.
By Act 51 Vic., cap. 9. Interest payable quarterly out of the Public Treasury. Debentures redeemable 35 years after their respective dates.	48,126 0 2	—	—
A Sinking Fund was established by the Act 63 Vic., cap. 7, to which the first contribution was made by a payment of £10,000 from Surplus Funds, and it was enacted that a payment of £900 should be annually made from General Revenue until the Loan is paid off.			
£630 per annum paid out of Treasury to Crown Agents towards the Sinking Fund, interest payable quarterly from the Treasury. (50 Vic., cap. 1.)	30,000 0 0	—	—
5s Vic., cap. 1. £872 per annum paid out of the Public Treasury towards the Sinking Fund.	6,000 0 0	—	—
	£119,126 0 2		

(E.) CURRENCY.

By the Act 2 Vic., cap. 4, passed in the year 1838, British sterling money was made the current money of the Colony, and all ordinary retail business is transacted with British silver and copper coinage, which are legal tender without any limit.

The Bank of Nassau has a note issue of £6,500, and its notes are in circulation throughout the islands, but especially in Nassau.

American silver coins are current at the relative value of half a dollar for two shillings, and a quarter-dollar for one shilling.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

In order to bring the trade returns into line with the financial year ending on 31st March the present returns include, necessarily, the imports and exports for fifteen months, viz., the whole of the year 1901 and the first quarter of 1902.

The total imports for this period are valued at £408,648, a portion of which to the value of £3,125 consisted of specie and bullion.

Imports to the value of £70,438 were admitted free of duty consisting principally of articles on the list of exemptions, viz., specie as above mentioned, and

Coal for use of shipping to the value of £7,666.

Machinery for sisal estates to the value of £16,514.

Fertilizers for agricultural uses to the value of £6,616.

Ship-building stores to the value of £1,646.

Fresh provisions to the value of £9,084.

Ice to the value of £3,032.

The sum total also includes dutiable articles admitted free for the use of the hotels and Government Institutions such as textile fabrics, earthenware and hardware to the value of £10,900 and other minor imports.

The following table gives a list of the chief articles imported, comparing the figures with those of the preceding year, 1900:—

Articles.	For the year 1901, and 1st quarter of 1902.	For the year 1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Ale and porter	3,012	2,436	576	—
Spirits	9,397	7,126	2,271	—
Wines	1,895	1,435	460	—
Cotton, linen, and silk goods	62,870	56,528	6,342	—
Earthenware, glass, &c. ...	57,015	47,102	9,913	—
Tinware, hardware, &c. ...	13,915	16,357	—	2,442
Preserved meats, &c. ...	24,206	18,630	5,576	—
Flour	42,772	23,264	14,508	—
Salted meats, &c.	19,769	14,312	5,457	—
Butter and cheese	9,542	7,871	1,671	—
Corn meal and hominy ...	11,718	8,414	3,304	—
Rice	11,383	6,911	4,472	—
Sugar	14,197	11,425	2,767	—
Machinery	16,514	8,912	7,602	—
Lumber and shingles ...	3,886	12,689	—	8,803
Soap	1,841	1,667	174	—
Hay and oats	4,463	2,546	1,917	—
Cigars and tobacco	8,017	5,913	2,104	—
Kerosene oil	3,681	3,358	323	—

There is nothing which calls for special attention in the above list.

The figures in the column showing increase in the imports of the articles named in the first column are only such as may be accounted for by the extra period of one quarter of a year for which the returns are made up except in the case of flour the figures for which, if prices had been maintained at the same level, would argue a largely-increased rate of consumption.

In fact, however, the number of barrels imported in 1900 was 41,233, and during the fifteen months ending 31st March, 1902, the number of barrels imported was 52,637, an increase in quantity of about 25 per cent., as might be expected.

That the increase on comparison of values should exceed that rate is due to the increase in price of flour in the United States which must have gone up nearly half a dollar per barrel.

The decrease in imports of lumber and hardware is attributable to the cessation of the demand caused by the temporary expenditure of the Florida East Coast Company and of building societies in Nassau.

Exports.

The total exports for the year 1901 and the first quarter of 1902 are valued at £222,178, of which £214,536 is accounted for as Colonial produce consisting principally of sponge and fruit, and £7,642 as British and foreign manufactured articles such as yellow metal, tobacco, dry goods, hardware, machinery, &c.

The following table shows the quantities and values of the chief articles exported during the period above-mentioned and also for the year 1900:—

	Exports in 1901 and first quarter of 1902.		Exports in 1900.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Sponge	1,517,597	137,297	1,165,406	104,219
	doz.		doz.	
Pineapples	380,094	28,892	602,751	59,191
	No.		No.	
Oranges	3,471,599	5,011	1,683,990	3,148
	cases		cases	
Canned fruits	41,055	8,797	41,913	8,836
	lbs.		lbs.	
Bahamas hemp	1,538,478	18,534	1,276,037	16,246
	bushels		bushels	
Salt	73,045	917	38,257	478
	lbs.		lbs.	
Turtle shell	9,313	6,906	6,904	4,391
	barrels		barrels	
Sea shells	2,826	2,357	850	1,166
	lbs.		lbs.	
Cascarilla bark	250,000	2,709	85,410	887
	tons		tons	
Hardwoods	1,136	1,518	1,198	1,212

The exports of fruit which formerly used to equal or surpass in value the exports of sponge, are now of much inferior importance, and a careful comparison of the figures for 1900 with those of the period now under review leads to the conclusion that the falling off in the total exports during that period, having regard to the additional quarter of a year included in the returns cannot have been much less than £21,359.

Return of total imports and exports for the four years 1897 to 1900, and for the fifteen months from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902:—

Year.	Value of Imports.	Value of Exports.	Value of Total Imports and Exports.
	£	£	£
1897	186,010	145,085	335,095
1898	238,336	174,860	413,196
1899	329,196	169,148	498,344
1900	335,269	172,317	507,586
1901-2	408,648	222,178	630,826

Some information as to the relative importance of the trade of the Bahamas with the United Kingdom and United States respectively may be obtained by reference to the following tabular statements.

Statement of the principal imports from the United Kingdom and United States respectively during the fifteen months including the year 1901 and first quarter of 1902:—

Imports.	For the Year 1901 and First Quarter of the Year 1902.			
	United Kingdom.		United States.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Cotton, woollen, linen and silk goods.	Unenumerated.	£ 33,914	Unenumerated.	£ 28,247
Earthenware, glassware, &c.	"	8,575	"	46,566
Tinware, hardware	"	3,181	"	10,677
Preserved fruits, &c.	"	4,650	"	18,866
Ale and porter ...	galls. 12,182	1,832	galls. 6,536	1,180
Whiskey	" 4,062	1,800	" 964	654
Wines	" 1,769	639	" 2,330	1,205
Linseed and other oils.	" 5,585	839	" 2,061	344
Rice	lbs. 2,233,633	10,358	lbs. 166,317	880
Sugar (refined) ...	" 96,570	727	" 520,268	4,127
" (unrefined) ...	" 1,244,479	7,680	" 9,057	62
Iron nails	" 5,585	839	" 168,200	1,138
Copper and yellow metal.	" 16,870	352	" 13,902	458
Candles	" 10,550	225	" 530	17
Soap (common) ...	" 7,857	82	" 229,510	1,759
Machinery	—	3,788	—	12,726

Statement of the principal exports to the United Kingdom and United States, respectively, during the fifteen months including the year 1901 and first quarter of 1902.

Exports.	For the year 1901, and first quarter of the year 1902.			
	United Kingdom.		United States.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Bahamas hemp ...	24,232	486	1,514,246	18,048
Cascarilla bark ...	33,879	408	216,121	2,301
Sponge ...	156,524	11,312	869,167	80,228
Turtle-shell ...	7,444	5,495	1,869	1,411
	Barrels.		Barrels.	
Sea shells ...	427	546	2,048	1,561
	No.		No.	
Conch shells ...	9,300	72	102,809	349
	Cases.		Cases.	
Canned fruit ...	762	81	49,087	8,611

(B.) MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

Sponge Fishery.

This industry, the most important in the Bahamas, is for the present in a fairly flourishing condition though complaints of low prices are common and the places of the men belonging to the sponging fleet, who were drowned during the hurricane in 1899, are taken in a large measure by inexperienced youths.

The following is a list of the quantity and value of the sponge exported to the several countries named:—

Country.		Quantity.	Value.
		lbs.	£
United Kingdom	...	156,524	11,312
United States	...	869,167	80,228
Canada	...	1,318	119
Holland	...	211,774	19,103
France	...	137,438	17,651
Germany	...	112,587	7,569
Russia	...	14,557	1,019
Italy	...	14,332	296

Some excitement and alarm was caused by reports continually brought into Nassau of American vessels fishing for sponge in the waters of the Bahamas in considerable numbers and of

larger size and better equipped than the colonial vessels, landing on the uninhabited cays to dry and cure the sponge, and carrying it off for sale to Key West.

Although most of these practices are generally in contravention of the revenue laws, it was thought better as the Assembly was in session to give special protection to the sponge fishery by preserving the fishing rights for British vessels, and an Act was accordingly passed for the purpose.

It is doubtful, however, whether these depredations could have been effectually stopped at the time had it not been for the action of the Customs authorities of the State of Florida, who, in taking cognizance of the facts brought to their knowledge, and prosecuting the owners of these vessels on their arrival at Key West, under the United States revenue laws, were acting for the protection of the Florida and Cuban fisheries by stopping the importation of Bahamas sponge, duty free, to compete with the products of their own coasts.

In fact, the owners of the American schooners were committing a breach of the revenue laws of both countries, but it was only when they entered at American ports that they could be subjected to the penalties incurred.

It is difficult to obtain an absolutely correct account of the condition of the sponge industry, or indeed of any other, since answers to questions cannot in all cases be obtained, but through the assiduous enquiries carried out by Mr. N. B. Burnside, Chief Clerk in the Colonial Secretary's office, sufficient information has been gained to enable the following statistics to be given as approximately full and correct up to the end of the year 1900.

Number of Vessels Engaged.

265 schooners of from 5 to 43 tons burthen, and 322 sloops from 1 to 16 tons burthen with an aggregate tonnage of 5,952 tons.

Number of Boats Engaged.

2,517 open boats were attached to the above-mentioned vessels and 291 open boats were engaged in the industry along the shores of many of the islands.

Number of Persons Engaged.

In the sea-going vessels, 5,517 men and boys.

In the long-shore boats, 445 men and boys.

In clipping, sorting and packing for export, 258 men and women.

Salt.

At Ragged Island the Resident Justice reports the production of salt to be on the increase, 25,428 bushels having been shipped

to Jamaica and 10,497 bushels disposed of in the out-islands at better prices than were formerly obtained.

Concerning the salt industry of Inagua the Resident Justice, Mr. Armbrister, furnished a special report, which has been already transmitted to the Secretary of State by Governor Sir Gilbert Carter.*

(C.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

Pine-apples.

The most important of the industries in which agriculture plays a part continues to be the raising of pine-apples for export in the natural state, and also for the canning factories, where after undergoing various processes the fruit is converted into the tinned article, for which there is a large sale in the United States as shown by the export returns. There is nothing special to remark of the crop or exports of 1901. Nothing is going on during the first quarter of any year so that the export return as regards pine-apples is not affected by the inclusion in the return of the first quarter of 1902.

There are no extensive cultivations of this fruit except in the island of Eleuthera, where 2,030 acres are taken up with it.

In Long Island also there are 250 acres, and in San Salvador 104 acres on which pines are grown.

Oranges.

The trade in fruit other than pine-apples is limited to the orange and the pomelo or, as it is locally called, the grape fruit. Bananas, cocoa-nuts, pumpkins, tomatoes, mangoes and sappodillas are all represented in the export list, but in such small quantities that the value is next to nothing. It serves to show, however, that the possibilities of a fruit trade exist if the business of buying, packing, and exporting was in the hands of a competent firm contented with reasonable profits.

Under the conditions prevailing at Nassau the prices offered by the exporters are so low that it does not pay the people even who live close round to gather and carry the fruit to the packing warehouse, and oranges are allowed to fall and rot on the ground by thousands.

Of late years the pomelo or grape fruit has risen so highly in the estimation of Americans that a good price for that fruit may always be reckoned upon, and in quantities ten times as great as this Colony is at present capable of supplying.

I have been told by Mr. Henry Mostyn, formerly Private Secretary to Governor Sir W. Haynes Smith, who has himself established and brought to great perfection a fruit farm in New Providence about eight miles from Nassau in a westerly direction, that he intends to increase by every means possible the production of the pomelo or grape fruit, even by grafting it on

* Printed as an Appendix to this Report.

to the orange trees, having every confidence that the demand will be maintained for many years to come as there is no fruit of the citrus species at all likely to displace it in the public favour.

Complaints of the United States tariff are universal, as if it was killing the fruit trade, but a little statistical research shows plainly enough that it never has been anything but relatively insignificant by comparison with the importance which it evidently might and should have attained, and that at the present day it is just about the same as and no more than it was when the exports went to the United Kingdom, where, of course, they entered free of duty.

Take, for instance, the average annual shipments of oranges, pomeloes and shaddocks (for which information as well as for the list which follows I am indebted to Mr. Mostyn) and it will be seen that the average price and the average value of the annual exports are nearly identical for the period comprising the years from 1860 to 1877, when the trade was with the United Kingdom, and for the period from 1878 to 1901 when it began, and thereafter continued to be with the United States, thus:—

Years.	Average annual shipment.	Average price per 1,000.	Average value of annual shipment.
	No.	£ s. d.	£
1860 to 1877 ...	2,219,000	1 13 1	3,680
1878 to 1901 ...	2,726,313	1 13 6	3,693

That the United States tariff of one cent per lb. is a great hindrance to the trade must, of course, be admitted, and the uncertainty as to whether the duty may not be raised to an amount altogether prohibitive must tend to discourage the investment of capital in fruit growing.

The following statement will, no doubt, be of interest to persons engaged in the fruit trade. It includes the statistics of the export of pomeloes and oranges for the last twenty-four years commencing with 1878, showing the numbers of each kind of fruit exported, the price per thousand at New York, and the estimated value of the total annual shipments in each year.

There are some exceptional years as 1883, when the crop entirely failed owing to the severe drought of the year 1882.

In the years 1888 and 1889 the price for pomeloes dropped as low as 12s. 9d. and 4s. 1d. per thousand.

On the other hand—ten years afterwards, in 1898, the price rose to £9 4s. 6d. per thousand, the highest yet known, and not likely ever to be realized again.

Between these two extremes there is an ample margin for steady and remunerative prices from which growers and all concerned in the trade could realize fair profits.

Year.	Pomelo or Grape fruit.	Price per M.	Oranges.	Price per M.	Total export value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£
1878 ...	121,053	1 8 0	3,317,683	1 5 0	4,937
1879 ...	338,550	2 9 6	5,146,248	1 7 6	7,406
1880 ...	147,894	1 4 0	3,866,215	1 3 0	4,598
1881 ...	150,365	1 4 0	4,103,590	1 4 6	5,147
1882 ...	93,395	1 0 0	2,550,538	1 8 0	3,598
1883 ...	10,800	1 0 0	451,900	1 7 2	626
1884 ...	104,049	19 7	1,838,080	1 2 0	2,116
1885 ...	58,590	1 5 0	1,882,695	19 0	1,810
1886 ...	102,456	1 9 5	3,198,196	1 5 0	4,171
1887 ...	164,080	1 4 0	3,779,565	1 1 3	4,110
1888 ...	220,100	12 9	2,046,650	19 0	2,104
1889 ...	354,110	4 1	2,314,370	1 6 0	3,113
1890 ...	241,620	1 9 0	3,242,896	1 4 6	4,316
1891 ...	178,994	1 15 0	2,125,097	1 1 0	2,567
1892 ...	161,015	1 13 2	3,082,870	19 0	3,292
1893 ...	67,400	1 9 0	1,097,100	18 6	1,183
1894 ...	101,100	1 18 0	675,619	17 6	773
1895 ...	226,169	3 0 0	4,492,981	1 1 0	5,595
1896 ...	291,880	4 5 3	1,828,522	1 10 6	4,025
1897 ...	622,981	5 6 0	2,544,399	1 6 6	7,706
1898 ...	215,239	9 4 6	2,258,478	1 7 6	5,049
1899 ...	87,799	4 15 9	482,628	2 14 6	1,600
1900 ...	300,905	2 9 6	1,264,057	1 12 2	2,777
1901 ...	470,426	4 10 3	3,001,173	19 2	5,011
Per A. ...	201,686	£2 4 7	2,524,627	£1 4 6	£3,693

(D.) LAND GRANTS.

333½ acres of Crown lands were disposed of by purchase—12½ acres at New Providence, 91 acres at Andros Island and 230½ acres at Eleuthera.

The total number of acres comprised in Crown grants throughout the Colony is 350,085, and the total number of acres remaining ungranted 1,768,253.

(E.) SHIPPING.

As the shipping return in this Blue Book includes the first quarter of 1902 as well as the whole year 1901, no exact comparison can be made with the returns of previous years which have always hitherto dealt with the figures of the preceding calendar year only, but it will appear from the following tables that as regards sailing vessels the increase in British and American vessels and tonnage, is proportionate, or nearly so, to the longer period dealt with in the return, whilst as regards steamers, there is a falling off in numbers of vessels and in tonnage of British and Norwegian nationality, and more than a proportionate in-

crease for the fifteen months dealt with in American and German steamers.

This may mean that fewer British and Norwegian vessels are now taking this ocean route on their way to the Gulf, or that they are giving up the practice of taking labourers on board at Long Cay or Inagua, the only object for which they would come to an entry at Long Cay or Inagua, and as regards American vessels the subsidized mail vessels from Florida and New York account for about seventy entries and clearances yearly.

Return of the numbers and tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared, distinguishing nationalities, for the year 1900, and the year and a quarter from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902:—

Nationality.	1900.				1901-2.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British ...	144	10,439	145	10,512	222	13,525	218	13,266
American ...	79	10,587	77	10,534	94	19,193	96	18,284
Spanish ...	1	25	5	102	—	—	—	—
Haitian ...	22	240	20	228	30	610	30	630
Cuban ...	—	—	—	—	2	32	2	32
Dominican ...	—	—	—	—	1	30	1	30

Return of the numbers and tonnage of Steamers entered and cleared, distinguishing nationalities, for the year 1900 and the year and a quarter from the 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902:—

Nationality.	1900.				1901-2.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British ...	118	246,148	118	246,145	86	185,732	87	186,333
American ...	101	141,677	100	140,759	139	207,318	138	205,686
German ...	19	23,142	20	24,343	30	55,208	31	56,908
Norwegian ...	135	120,983	134	120,139	112	110,372	110	108,433
Dutch ...	4	3,970	4	3,970	—	—	—	—
Cuban ...	—	—	—	—	41	56,029	41	56,029

Comparative Statement of total shipping inwards and outwards for the last five years:—

Year.	Total Number of Vessels.		Total Tonnage.		Total Vessels and Tonnage.	
	In-wards.	Out-wards.	In-wards.	Out-wards.	Ves-sels.	Ton-nage.
1897	560	562	261,042	257,175	1,122	518,217
1898	595	597	371,878	369,644	1,192	741,522
1899	657	655	489,149	490,670	1,312	979,819
1900	623	619	557,211	556,653	1,242	1,113,866
1901-2	757	754	648,049	645,631	1,511	1,293,680

III.—LEGISLATION.

The Legislature met on the 19th February and was prorogued on the 14th May, and during this Session twenty-five Acts were passed, including the Annual Appropriation Act, and the following Acts which are selected for mention as being of general importance, viz.:—

Act 2, Edward 7, cap. 2. "The Tonnage Consolidation and Amendment Act, 1902," has for object to limit the payment of tonnage dues to one payment in every twelve calendar months, imposes a duty of one shilling for every ton of measurement on all vessels arriving at any port in the Bahamas from any port or place without the limits of the Colony, such duty not to be imposed more than once in every twelve calendar months.

Act 2, Edward 7, cap. 14. "The Stamp Amendment Act, 1902," has for object the exemption from stamp duties of bills of exchange and bills of lading for goods shipped to foreign ports.

Act 2, Edward 7, cap. 22. "The Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1902," prohibits the use of any wireless telegraphy unless authorised by Government.

Act 2, Edward 7, cap. 5. "The Fishery Protection Act, 1902," prohibits the gathering of sponge or any other marine product or turtling or fishing by foreign vessels within the territorial limits of the Bahama Islands.

Act 2, Edward 7, cap. 24. "The Export Duty Act, 1902," imposes a duty of ten shillings per hundred on the export of pine-apple plants, i.e., slips, suckers, or tops of pine-apples to be used for planting purposes, the object being to protect the pine-apple industry from foreign competition.

Act 2, Edward 7, cap. 16. "The Public Establishments Act further Amendment Act," provides for two additional district magistracies in the out-islands, the details of which will be found in Part X.

The three last above-mentioned Acts are reserved until notification is given that it is His Majesty's pleasure not to disallow the same.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The state of primary education in the Colony calls for no special remarks; there is certainly no retrogression nor, on the other hand, is there any marked improvement to be noticed within the past three years.

There has been, however, sustained endeavour on the part of the Board of Education to raise the standard of efficiency in the educational system of the Colony, the latest phase of which is to be seen in the introduction of ameliorations in the school life of both teachers and scholars by building new and sanitary school-houses and residences for school teachers. The Legislature granted £2,500, which is being steadily applied to these purposes, new school-houses being already completed in five out-island districts, and residences for teachers in three districts, whilst others are projected and will be shortly put in hand.

Administrative efficiency has been increased by relieving the Inspector of Schools of the duties of Secretary to the Board of Education, and thus enabling him to give almost the whole of his time to the inspection of schools in the out-islands—a laborious work, which, depending as it does largely upon the chances of wind and weather, demands a sacrifice of time and leisure which no other officials are called upon to make, and it is in consequence of the impression made upon the Government and the Legislature by the consideration of the circumstances under which this appointment is held that a personal allowance of £50 annually has been granted to the present holder of the office.

The Inspector of Schools states that the total number of days' work done in the schools last year was 8,707, giving an average of 202 days to each school. These figures are slightly below those of the best preceding years, but may be partly excused by the fact that in certain schools time was unavoidably lost, owing to change of teachers and also partly to the exceptionally heavy and long-continued rains in certain islands and districts, causing flooded roads and consequent closing of schools for many days at a time.

The average percentage of passes in the four test subjects was nearly 75, and was probably less by three or four than it

would have been except for an unusual amount of irregularity preceding many of the examinations owing to the climatic conditions above-mentioned, and to severe epidemics of measles in several localities.

The following comparative table exhibits the most important of the statistical information available for the past three years:—

—	1899.	1900.	1901
Number of schools wholly maintained out of the annual grant.	44	43	44
Number of schools which received grants in aid ...	11	11	12
Number of pupils who attended Board Schools during some portion of the year.	7,074	6,935	6,940
Number of pupils who attended the Assisted Schools during some portion of the year.	1,061	1,020	1,122
Number of names on the rolls (Board Schools) ...	5,772	5,776	5,848
Number of names on the rolls (Assisted Schools)...	952	919	992
Average attendance (Board Schools)	4,001.4	3,917	3,984
Average attendance (Assisted Schools)	575	569	614
Total number of schools	55	54	56
Number of scholars present during some portion of the year.	8,090	7,955	8,102
Average number of names on the rolls	6,724	6,695	6,840
Average attendance	4,577.4	4,486	4,598

The teaching staff during the year comprised—

43 principal teachers,
 5 assistant ,,
 7 pupil ,,
 10 sewing ,,
 84 monitors,

and with two students in training and thirteen persons employed in assisted schools, reached a total of one hundred and sixty-four persons.

The supply of teachers is now generally provided for by retaining in the schools the most eligible pupils as paid monitors and pupil teachers till they are aged from 18 to 21 years, and then sending them to the Boys Central School for one or two years to receive further instruction and training.

The following information is gathered from a report on Education made by the Superintendent of Schools:—

“In New Providence there are two schools for girls and one for boys. All others, both in New Providence and on the out-islands, are mixed schools, and in none of these, excepting one.

infant school, is a female principal teacher employed, the conditions being too unfavourable.

"Evening schools have been opened at various times and places, have flourished for a while, and gradually died out from the falling off in the attendance.

"The attempts to teach agriculture in the schools have hitherto not been attended with much success, but it is now under consideration to introduce a handbook, specially prepared, to inculcate such methods as are in accordance with local conditions.

"Tailoring and shoe-making were formerly taught in some of the schools, but the former is sufficiently attractive to a certain class of youths without being taught in the schools, while the infrequent use of shoes by a large proportion of the people and the cheapness of American machine-made goods cause the demand for shoe-makers to be very limited.

"Kindergarten exercises have been introduced experimentally in one school, and some further developments of manual training will probably be attempted in the near future."

No separate provision is made by the Government for either secondary or technical education, and no other than the schools already treated of are in any way either assisted or superintended.

Although the condition of primary education in the Government schools has been stationary or nearly so in the past three years, if a comparison is made with the conditions of twenty years ago the improvement is very remarkable, for since the year 1882 the number of schools has increased 87 per cent., the names on the registers 130 per cent., the average attendance 170 per cent., and the percentage of the population then attending Board Schools was 6·8, whereas it is now 12·7.

Besides the provision made by the Government for elementary education, the Church of England possesses five schools in New Providence, with a total of 516 names on the rolls, which are supported partly by the parish vestries and partly by funds supplied by "Brays Associates" and the "Christian Faith Society."

It also has 23 schools on the out-islands with a total of 1,114 names on the rolls and 663 in average attendance making a total for their elementary school, of 1,630 names on the rolls and 932 in average attendance.

The provision for higher education is in the hands of the several religious denominations; the Church of England possessing in New Providence a Diocesan Grammar School, with 18 pupils, and two separate girls' schools with 8 and 25 pupils, respectively, all supported by fees; and there is also Queen's

College, under the management of the Wesleyan Society, with 22 pupils; and there is also a High School for girls in connection with St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, with 31 pupils.

The proportion of the population under tuition of some kind and to some extent at the present time is 18·2 per cent.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A). HOSPITALS.

The Blue Book Return includes the statistical information of fifteen months, from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902, of which the following is a summary:—

	Males.	Females
Number remaining in hospital at beginning of year 1901.	72	60
Number admitted during 1901-2	287	205
Daily average in hospital 1901-2	66	64
Patients discharged cured	115	67
" " relieved	83	45
" " not improved	12	24
Number who died in the 15 months from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902.	64	67
Number admitted with local injuries	36	
Number of surgical operations	16	

(B). ASYLUMS.

The lunatic asylum contains two separate buildings—for males and females, respectively. There were 32 patients on 31st March, 1902, classified as follows:—

	Males.	Females.
Maniacal and dangerous ...	9	7
Quiet chronic	3	5
Melancholy	2	—
Idiotic	4	2

The admissions during the fifteen months ending 31st March, 1902, were 17 in number, 7 males and 10 females; the daily

average number in the asylum during the same period was 29, 15 males and 14 females.

Two patients were discharged cured and 3 relieved, and the number of patients who died was 7, an inquest having been held in each case.

The daily average number of patients whom it was found possible to give employment to about the grounds of the institution or in household work was 19, 13 males and 6 females.

(C.) POOR-HOUSES AND POOR RELIEF.

The infirmary or poor-house contains usually about 42 persons, most of whom are suffering from chronic infirmities and old age.

A new building, called the Alexandra Infirmary, has been completed and furnished, built entirely of cut stone, at a cost of £2,082, and was opened by the Governor on the 13th of May of this present year.

A plan of the building is attached to the Blue Book showing that there are five wards and a dining-room on the ground-floor, with a total floor space of 3,120 superficial feet, and a cubic space of 32,760 cubic feet, and a height from floor to ceiling of 10 feet 6 inches.

The upper floor to which access is gained by four staircases has the same disposition of space, a recreation room taking the place of the dining-room in the centre, and as there is no ceiling to the upper story, the height from floor to apex of roof is 18 feet 9 inches, giving larger cubic space, *i.e.*, 43,624 cubic feet instead of the 32,760 cubic feet of the ground-floor.

Out-door poor relief was granted to 73 persons in the island of New Providence, and 122 on the out-islands.

(E.) SAVINGS BANK.

The Savings Bank is a Government institution, and is attached to the General Post Office and kept by the Postmaster and Chief clerk in the post office at Nassau.

The deposits are limited to £200 for any one person and £40 in any single year.

The rate of interest allowed on deposits is $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and the invested funds amount to £16,692 15s.

A comparison of the transactions of this bank for the last five years shows a slow but steady increase of business during the period.

Comparative statement of Post Office Savings Bank transactions for five years from 1897 to 1901.

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Deposited during the Year.	Withdrawals.	Interest added to Accounts.	Balance due December 31.	Assets.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1897	1,051	4,157 3 11	4,041 6 9	199 2 5	9,528 5 4	9,588 6 5
1898	1,107	4,806 11 11	4,144 5 5	230 5 2	10,415 17 0	10,523 9 8
1899	1,240	7,205 1 0	4,822 12 10	270 11 1	18,068 16 8	18,277 0 10
1900	1,350	7,591 8 8	5,752 15 7	328 8 2	15,287 17 1	15,525 11 9
1901	1,421	7,664 15 11	6,846 4 2	378 10 1	16,484 18 11	16,842 4 6

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

The Police returns for the island of New Providence show that the number of persons arrested by the Police amounted to 346, of which about one-fourth were for crimes of violence.

Fighting.	Assaulting Police.	Common Assaults.	Burglary.
35	21	14	12

Larceny.	Bad Language.	Drunkenness.	Other offences against person or property.
27	95	76	15

The number of the persons reported by the Police amounted to 545, amongst which were 20 cases of fighting, 131 cases of bad language, and 135 for trespass of cattle and pigs in the streets, the remainder being chiefly breaches of Police laws and regulations.

Attention is called by the Chief of the Police to the great increase of juvenile crime in Nassau, but no suggestions are put forward as to the best means to be adopted for its suppression, whether by the establishment of a reformatory or by rendering parents increasingly liable for pecuniary penalties incurred by their children.

(B.) PRISONS.

The total number of persons committed to prison during the fifteen months from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902, was 228, of whom 148 were men, 67 women and 13 juveniles.

The number of persons committed for purposes of penal imprisonment was 189, of whom 118 were men, 63 women and 8 juveniles; the number committed under short sentences, *i.e.*, for three months or less was 138, of whom 75 were men, 57 women and 6 juveniles; the number of those committed who had been previously convicted was 104, of whom 60 persons had been convicted thrice or more times, and may be classed as habitual criminals.

The Inspector of Prisons reports that 115 punishments were inflicted on persons undergoing imprisonment, of which the greater part were sentences of solitary imprisonment, and only one was a case of corporal punishment which was inflicted on a juvenile with a tamarind rod.

The sanitary condition of the prison is reported to have been very good though there were four deaths during the period of fifteen months under review; inquests were held, and verdicts returned in each case of death from natural causes.

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of persons brought before the Magistrates' Courts by arrest, warrant or summons was 3,021, an increase of 385 when compared with the numbers for 1900; but as the returns for this Blue Book include an extra quarter of a year the increase is not greater than what might naturally be expected under such circumstances.

The following table shows an abstract of the criminal statistics of the years 1898, 1899, 1900 and 1901-2:—

—	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901-2 (fifteen months).
Apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates.	2,468	2,508	2,636	3,021
Number of summary convictions :				
For offences against the person ...	238	246	237	276
For prædial larceny ...	48	37	31	24
For offences against property other than prædial larceny.	78	80	76	99
For other offences ...	1,451	1,460	1,600	1,774

Criminal Statistics—cont.

	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901-2 (fifteen months).
The number of convictions in the Superior Courts :				
For offences against the person ...	13	10	7	8
For prædial larceny... ..	—	—	—	—
For offences against property other than prædial larceny.	20	15	12	12
For other offences	—	1	2	7
The number of persons acquitted :				
In the Inferior Courts	392	464	438	523
In the Superior Courts	16	21	8	6

The cases were disposed of as follows :—

Discharged for want of prosecution or evidence	258
Dismissed on the merits	523
Summarily convicted	2,173
Committed for trial	67

With regard to the summary convictions the punishments inflicted were—fines, 1,601; imprisonment in lieu of fines, 164; peremptory imprisonment, 136; whipping, 66; bound over with or without sureties, 206.

With regard to the classes of offences included in the above convictions there were,—

Assaults and offences against the person ...	282
Malicious injuries to property	17
Prædial larceny	19
Offences against property not included in the above	82

There were 1,773 cases not included in the above classification, comprising eleven cases of breach of Revenue laws, and others for minor offences such as breaches of education laws, street traffic, and other Police regulations.

In the Superior Courts there were 27 convictions; 8 for offences against the person, 12 for offences against property, and 7 for offences not included in the above category.

Six acquittals also took place.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

The Census of the Bahamas Islands was taken on the 14th April, 1901, when the total population was ascertained to be 53,735, an increase of 6,170 since the last decennial Census was taken in 1891, which had given the Colony a population of 47,565.

The proportion of numbers to area of Colony is stated to be 12·20 to the square mile.

Other particulars as to age, sex, etc., are given below:—

—	Numbers.	Increase since census of 1891.	Per centum of population.
Sex—			
Males	25,000	2,445	46·52
Females	28,735	3,725	53·47
Age—			
Males and females under 18 years.	25,619	2,168	47·67
Above 18 years	26,914	4,093	50·08
Above 70 years	1,202	—	2·23
Marriage—			
Married	16,657	1,970	30·99
Occupation—			
Officials	292	—	·54
Professionals	129	41	·24
Traders and clerks	748	116	1·39
Mechanics	3,059	483	5·69
Planters and farmers	7,941	1,101	14·77
Seamen and fishermen... ..	4,271	1,737	7·94
Labourers and servants	6,743	889	12·54
Place of birth—			
Bahamas... ..	52,196	6,399	97·13
Other countries... ..	1,539	—	—
Vaccinated... ..	30,382	1,744	56·54
Education—			
Able to read and write	19,975	5,649	37·17

The following tabular statement shows the distribution of the population throughout the Bahamas Islands, and the increase or decrease of the population in the several islands since the last Census in 1891:—

Name of Island.	Area in square miles.	Popula- tion in 1891.	Popula- tion in 1901.	In- crease.	De- crease.	Remarks.
Abaco and Cays ...	776	3,656	3,314	—	372	The decrease is mainly due to emigration to Florida.
Acklin's Island...	120	1,192	1,565	373	—	
Andros Island ...	1,600	4,589	6,347	1,758	—	
Berry Islands ...	14	215	382	167	—	
Bimini... ..	8½	566	545	—	21	The decrease is due to emigration to Florida. These Cays are occupied only by the light-keepers and their families.
Cay Sal and Cay Lobos	7	30	18	—	12	
Crooked Island...	76	1,244	1,597	353	—	Some of the people have settled in other parts of the Colony and others have emigrated to Florida.
Eleuthera ...	164	7,358	8,733	1,375	—	
Exuma and Cays	100	2,915	3,086	171	—	
Grand Bahama ...	430	1,269	1,780	511	—	
Harbour Island	1½	1,472	1,232	—	240	The decrease is caused by the temporary employment of many of the labourers at Central America, Eleuthera and Little Abaco, Bahamas.
Inagua ...	560	998	1,453	455	—	
Long Cay ...	8	498	499	1	—	
Long Island ...	130	3,174	3,562	388	—	
Mayaguana ...	96	265	385	70	—	Several of the people have transferred their homes to New Providence and other parts of the Colony.
New Providence ...	58	10,914	12,534	1,620	—	
Ragged Island and Cays	5	348	365	17	—	
Rum Cay ...	29	402	529	127	—	
San Salvador ...	160	5,244	4,658	—	586	
Spanish Wells ...	½	414	534	120	—	
Watling's Island	60	772	667	—	105	
	4,403½	47,565	53,735	7,506	1,336	

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Medical Inspector reports that the public health has been good during the year throughout the island of New Providence; measles, whooping-cough, and chicken-pox prevailing in the early part of the year and influenza later on in a mild epidemic form.

The ordinary autumnal fevers were unusually limited in prevalence and of a mild type.

The relative mortality in the different seasons for New Providence exhibits only slight differences, the highest occurring in the June quarter.

(C) SANITATION.

The Medical Inspector reports that the sanitary condition of the island of New Providence was very satisfactory, and the water supply from springs and cisterns abundant.

Successful vaccinations to the number of 448 were performed in New Providence during the year, and 2,698 on the various out-islands of the Colony.

(D.) CLIMATE.

The rainfall for the year was 61·83 inches, 10 inches more than last year, and it was considered to be a very rainy season.

A meteorological return showing temperature, rainfall, and direction of winds is subjoined:—

	Temperature.						Rainfall.		Winds.		Remarks.
	Solar Maximum.	Minimum on Grass.	Shade Maximum.	Shade Minimum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in inches.	Degree of Humidity.	General Direction.	Average Force.	
January ...	180·0		77·0	59·7	17·3	68·4	0·49	81	N.E.	6	
February ...	129·8		77·0	61·4	15·6	69·2	1·00	83	N.E.	6	
March ...	186·7		79·4	63·7	15·7	71·1	0·80	80	N.E.	9	
April ...	187·6		79·7	67·6	12·1	72·7	1·40	77	N.E.	8	
May ...	186·6		83·4	71·5	11·9	77·5	9·26	92	S.	8	
June ...	183·2		85·7	76·2	9·5	81·0	14·04	82	S.E.	8	
July ...	141·9		87·8	79·4	7·9	83·4	8·15	75	E.	10	
August ...	148·4		87·9	78·6	9·3	83·1	7·54	71	S.E.	7	
September ...	148·6		88·1	78·0	10·1	83·1	8·82	82	S.E.	7	
October ...	148·9		88·8	75·8	8·5	79·6	10·06	77	E.	12	
November ...	124·6		77·2	70·1	7·1	73·7	0·80	67	N.E.	11	
December ...	111·1		75·1	67·2	7·9	71·2	0·97	76	E.	10	
Year ...	185·6		81·8	70·8	11·1	76·2	61·83	79	—	8½	

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH SERVICES.

POST OFFICE.

The Revenue for the period of fifteen months from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902, amounted to £4,128, and the Customs duties collected on parcels to £878 19s. 5d.

The total number of postal packets received and despatched was 535,129.

During the period, 2,066 parcels, valued at £2,987 3s. 5d. were received from the United Kingdom, and 2,807 parcels, valued £1,879, were received from the United States. 394 parcels, value £252 16s. 10d., and 326 parcels, value £185 15s. 2d., were despatched to the United Kingdom and the United States, respectively. The total number of parcels received and despatched by parcels mails was 5,593, value £5,305 9s. 5d.

The following tables show the number of letters received and despatched, money orders issued and drawn, and numbers and value of stamps, envelopes, and postcards sold at the Nassau Post Office:—

Statement of Letters Received and Despatched from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902.

	Received.				Despatched.			
	Letters.	Post Cards.	News and Books.	Total.	Letters.	Post Cards.	News and Books.	Total.
United Kingdom	36,019	814	45,427	82,260	24,178	858	7,918	32,444
United States ...	127,478	2,899	80,842	210,714	97,678	2,859	8,778	109,310
Other Countries	237	—	7	244	14,160	416	4,874	19,450
Inter-insular ...	28,611	119	1,262	29,992	30,084	887	20,244	50,715
Total ...	192,340	3,832	127,538	323,210	166,095	4,020	41,804	211,919
Total number Received ...					323,210			
" " Despatched ...					211,919			
Total ...					535,129			

Statement of Money Orders Issued and Drawn during the period from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902.

	Issued.		Drawn.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
United Kingdom, including through orders.	1,073	£ 1,437 17 3	184	£ 400 13 7
United States ...	1,597	2,056 9 0	287	1,016 18 7
Total ...	2,670	3,494 6 3	471	1,417 12 2

Total number of Money Orders issued and drawn 3,141, amounting to £4,911 1s. 5d.

Commission on Money Orders, £120.

Statement of Stamps, Envelopes, and Post Cards sold at the General Post Office, Nassau, from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902.

						Amount.		
						£	s.	d.
145,212	stamps	at	0	1	...	605	1	0
105,530	"	"	0	2½	...	1,099	5	5
1,899	"	"	0	4	...	31	13	0
3,863	"	"	0	6	...	96	11	6
5,907	"	"	1	0	...	295	7	0
524	"	"	5	0	...	131	0	0
159	"	"	20	0	...	159	0	0
22	envelopes	"	0	1½	...	0	2	9
556	"	"	0	2	...	4	12	8
2,593	"	"	0	2½	...	27	0	2½
18	"	"	0	3	...	0	4	6
3,747	postcards	"	0	1	...	15	12	3
76	"	"	0	2	...	0	12	8
Total... 270,106						Total ... 2,466 2 11½		

The Government cable from Nassau to Jupiter in Florida continues in good condition, and the numbers of messages sent and received during the period from 1st January, 1901, to 31st March, 1902, was as follows:—

United Kingdom	...	...	...	563
Other points	...	...	...	4,221
Service	...	...	...	321
Total				5,105

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

(D.) CONSTABULARY.

There are no regulars, militia, or volunteers, but the constabulary was raised and equipped when the troops were withdrawn, as a semi-military force, armed and drilled as infantry. They were originally enlisted at Barbados and brought to the Bahamas, but few of these remain, and they are now recruited within the Colony.

The strength of the force consists of a commandant, a sergeant-major, and 72 non-commissioned officers and men.

The commandant reported that the conduct of the men had been on the whole satisfactory, but it was necessary to dismiss four men for misconduct.

It is also stated that there is a growing difficulty in obtaining recruits who satisfy both the physical and the educational tests as men who have such capacities can do better for themselves in other careers.

Attention is again drawn by the commandant to the differences in pay and pension between the barrack divisions and the city Police to the disadvantage of the former class, which probably has a bearing on the recruiting question.

The arms, clothing, and equipment were kept in good order and renewed when necessary.

The total expenditure on the Force amounted to £6,960 13s. 7d.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The engagement of labourers to work by contract on board steam vessels or at harbour and other works on the mainland continued as in previous years.

The total number engaged at Bahamas ports was 4,983, and the number brought back 4,536.

This traffic takes place in about equal proportions at the ports of Long Cay and Inagua, both of which are lighthouse stations under the Board of Trade—Long Cay being the port first reached by ships making for the gulf.

Concerning contracts for work on the mainland, the Resident Justice of Long Cay reports that in May and June 100 men were engaged by the Panama Railroad Company for one year's service on the docks at Colon or Panama, as required, at the rate of \$15 a month and overtime ten cents an hour, boarding, lodging, and medical attendance free; also, in June, 114 men were engaged by George D. Emery, of Boston, for general work at Nicaragua for one year, on similar terms. In July, the Papares Sugar Company of Santa Marta engaged 15 men for six months. 1,874 men were engaged to work as deck labourers on the several ships of the Hamburg-American line (formerly Atlas Steamship Company) and the Munson Steamship Company, running to Jamaica, Hayti, Central America, and Cuban ports at the usual rates of pay, viz., 2s. a day and 5d. an hour overtime.

Particulars furnished by the Resident Justice will be found given below:—

Return of the Numbers of Labourers Engaged at the Port of Long Cay during the Year 1901, and of the Numbers Brought Back after Expiry of Engagement.

Month.	Number of steam vessels entered outward bound.	Number of Labourers engaged.		Number of steam vessels entered homeward bound.	Number of Labourers brought back after expiry of engagement.	
		To work on board ship.	To work on docks or railways on mainland.		From working on board ship.	From dock or railway work on mainland.
January ...	9	168	—	8	132	—
February ...	6	118	—	8	150	3
March ...	8	179	—	10	200	4
April ...	8	183	—	7	139	—
May ...	7	122	50	8	179	51
June ...	8	122	164	7	122	15
July ...	9	172	15	6	118	—
August ...	6	116	—	8	156	—
September ...	8	177	—	9	151	7
October ...	9	185	—	9	177	5
November...	7	138	—	9	159	11
December...	10	194	30	8	157	—
Total ...	95	1,874	229	97	1,840	96

The Resident Justice of Inagua reports that 300 men are employed by the Mexican Central Railway Company at Tampico principally on the docks, ordinary labourers receiving \$16 a month with board and lodging free. The usual payments are allowed for overtime and Sunday work, and foremen receive double the pay of ordinary labourers. Labourers under this contract receive half of their earnings in Mexico monthly, the remainder is remitted to the Inagua agent for the support of their families.

The report also states that 400 men were employed in Nicaragua cutting mahogany for George D. Emery, of Boston, United States, wages being about the same as those paid in Mexico.

The contracts in both instances are signed for one year.

The cash sent home by the men and wages paid at Inagua amounted to £18,125.

The steamers on which the labourers were embarked were those belonging to the Cameron and Munson Lines, and ships chartered by George D. Emery and the Mexican Central Railway Company.

Particulars are given in the subjoined return.

Return of the Number of Labourers Engaged at the Port of Inagua during the Year 1901, and of the Numbers of Labourers Brought Back after Expiry of Engagement.

Month.	Number of steam vessels entered outward bound.	Number of Labourers engaged.		Number of steam vessels entered homeward bound.	Number of Labourers brought back after expiry of engagement.	
		To work on board ship.	To work on docks or railways on mainland.		From working on board ship as labourers.	From dock or railway work on mainland.
January ...	5	174	19	3	245	80
February ...	4	128	—	3	97	—
March ...	6	194	58	5	144	—
April ...	6	170	29	4	108	—
May ...	5	114	93	8	223	133
June ...	5	180	240	5	184	60
July ...	9	278	171	6	165	—
August ...	6	165	—	8	289	37
September ...	6	218	—	5	169	30
October ...	7	249	—	7	242	8
November...	6	214	—	6	199	—
December...	6	191	—	5	182	5
Total ...	71	2,275	605	70	2,247	353

The Resident Justice reported in November that there had been a little excitement caused by the failure of the agent of the Cameron Line to pay a large number of men the wages earned by them for work on steamers during the preceding months, the amount due being stated at \$1,500 or thereabouts.

The agent had asked the Resident Justice for Police protection which was granted in anticipation of trouble until the excitement wore off.

The men happily behaved very wisely and no disorderly conduct or breach of the peace took place, notwithstanding the hardships caused by such failure which could not fail to constitute a provocation to violence.

Another report from the Resident Justice states: "A considerable amount of trade depression has been experienced during the past few months caused by inability or neglect on the part of the local agent of the Cameron Steamship Line to pay the labourers employed on those ships. For some months the men have been paid principally in 'truck,' but of late they have not even received that.

"A new agent is to be appointed as the men have formed a union and notified the Company that they will have nothing to do with the old agent.

"Both the Cameron and Atlas Lines are subsidized; the former for \$1,200 a year, payable by the agent, who has to make what he can out of the men."

A new and striking fact in connection with this labour contract business has thus been brought under notice, viz., that certain steamship companies instead of selecting a good agent and paying him a reasonable remuneration for his work allow their agencies to be bought by the highest bidder, thus making it inevitable that the labourers should be victimized under the baleful truck system, as an agent so appointed can only recoup himself for his outlay by keeping a store and charging exorbitant prices for inferior goods.

The Merchant Shipping Acts do not afford any protection, as the men are not seamen in any sense, but merely labourers, and many are not even British subjects, but Haytiens who have come over to Inagua from Haiti for the express purpose of getting employment.

The outlook for the present year is not promising. The climatic conditions are those of severe drought, which still prevails.

The pine-apple crop has already been disastrously short, and there is every indication of coming distress amongst the people in the out-islands owing to the complete failure of their crops of corn and peas.

J. SPENCER CHURCHILL,
Colonial Secretary.

APPENDIX

REPORT on the SALT INDUSTRY of INAGUA by the
RESIDENT JUSTICE, Mr. P. W. D. ARMBRISTER.

Some of the small proprietors of ponds have resumed salt manufacture with good results. The article raked is of the best quality, and no doubts whatever would be entertained in regard to the success of this industry, if it could only be carried on upon a sufficiently extensive scale. Inagua's fame as a salt producing island has not yet died out. The quality of its once staple production is still remembered by salt merchants in the United States and other places. To insure success to this industry, however, outside capital is most necessary. In order to compete successfully with other salt producing islands (Turks Islands for example) the tramways ought to be repaired, and rolling stock renewed. Salt pans require cleaning and wind-mill pumps and other appliances need repairs.

The handling of small quantities of salt affords but a small margin of profit under the present system of transportation. The value of salt at the ponds is one cent a bushel; transportation and shipping charges amount to four cents; other expenses bring the cost of salt up to six cents a bushel on board ship. The usual price offered by dealers for small quantities is seven cents, leaving a profit of one cent a bushel (sometimes less) to the pond proprietor.

Notwithstanding the fact that there is a demand for Inagua salt in the United States, *in large quantities*, very little can be done here in the matter. The salt pond is about a mile from the shipping place, and all of the salt is transported by means of a few small carts, drawn by diminutive horses, 12 bushels to the load. Arriving at the sea shore the salt is deposited on the ground. Here a number of men are employed placing the article in bags, which are tied up and put upon the heads of other labourers, who convey them to boats moored near the shore. When the boats are loaded they are rowed off to the vessel; the bags are handed up on deck and their contents emptied into the hold. This state of affairs might easily be remedied by the expenditure of a sufficient amount of money for establishing more up-to-date methods, thereby lessening the cost of transportation, and consequently increasing the profits of those engaged in the industry. It is not a matter for surprise that the present antiquated system of handling has proved a serious obstacle to the successful prosecution of the salt industry. The Turks Islands (better favoured by nature) have almost completely ousted Inagua from the business. Their ponds being near the shore, the proprietors were better able to cut down the price of salt and thereby attract buyers.

A wealthy company in the States quite recently wrote to a merchant of this Island offering to buy salt, provided that it could be obtained in quantities of from 1,000 to 3,000 tons at a time. I very much fear, however, that this opportunity for building up trade will be lost unless outside capital is forthcoming for cleaning and working the ponds, besides providing facilities for the transportation and shipment of the article.

I have lately seen a pamphlet published by the Trenton Iron Company of the United States. This Company manufactures tramways, &c., which are worked by the endless cable system. Many are in use in various parts of the world. The cost of the plant is very moderate, while at the same time an immense amount of work is obtained. I noticed that for the transportation of sand, lime, &c., it is claimed that the cost does not exceed six cents a ton per mile; that is the cost at Trinidad of conveying pitch from the lake and placing the same on board ship. If salt can be transported at the same cost (and I see no reason to think the contrary), instead of costing, as it does at present, four cents a bushel for carriage, it could be conveyed from the pond to the ship for less than half a cent a bushel. If the price obtained amounted to only six cents, there would still remain a profit of about four

cents a bushel. The pond here is capable of producing, at least, two million bushels a year. There is a good market in the United States. The people here, from lack of capital, however, are unable to produce the article in sufficient quantities as required; and even if they were, have no facilities for conveying it to the sea shore and placing the same on board ship. At Turks Islands, the cost of producing salt and placing it on board ship is about four and a half cents a bushel; yet the Colony thrives upon the business, besides paying an export duty or royalty of about £4,000 a year.

To any person willing to invest £3,000 or £4,000 in the salt business Inagua offers many inducements; amongst which are the following, viz. :—

1st.—Constant communication with the United States; with weekly mails.

2nd.—A demand in the United States for Inagua salt in large quantities.

3rd.—Inagua ponds are able to produce millions of bushels annually.

4th.—If properly handled the salt should not cost more than three cents a bushel on board ship, after paying all expenses, interest on capital included.

5th.—The price of Inagua salt is at present seven cents a bushel.

6th.—There is no export duty on salt such as exists at Turks Islands.

In previous reports I stated the causes that led to the decline of this once most important industry, the principal of which was the flood that took place about 25 years ago; I also mentioned the fact of a dam having been constructed, which now makes a repetition of the damage that took place on that occasion quite impossible.

For several years past the quality of salt produced has been all that could be desired, while the yield of the pans worked is quite equal to that obtained during the best years of the business.

P. W. D. ARMBRISTER,

Resident Justice.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.
1902.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 368.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1901-1902.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 326.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 24-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-38] *Price 3d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
346	Northern Nigeria	1900-1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900-1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900-1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900
354	Bermuda... ..	1901
355	Gambia	"
356	Falkland Islands	"
357	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
358	Malta	"
359	Gibraltar... ..	"
360	Straits Settlements	"
361	Sierra Leone	"
362	British Honduras	"
363	Turks and Caicos	"
364	Seychelles	"
365	Bahamas... ..	1901-1902
366	Fiji	1901
367	Ceylon	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand... ..	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas... ..	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific... ..	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas... ..	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operation in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
20	Wei hai Wei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.

No. 368.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1900, see No. 326.)

GOVERNOR SIR F. M. HODGSON to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Barbados,

22nd August, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Blue Book of Barbados for 1901-1902, and to submit for your information the following report upon it:—

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

As it has been arranged that the financial year shall in future be from the 1st April to the 31st March inclusive, the figures in this year's Blue Book will be for the period from the 1st April, 1901, to the 31st March, 1902, but they will in some cases have to be compared with the figures for the calendar year 1900.

Simultaneously with the alteration in the financial year, a change was made in the Customs Tariff. This change must be borne in mind when examining the comparative statements of revenue and expenditure. The Tariff brought into operation on the 1st April, 1901, was with a few minor alterations a reversion to the Tariff of the 1st January, 1897, and it may be convenient here to explain why that Tariff was not kept continuously in force. The Tariff in question, which includes a 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty upon articles of commerce not particularly enumerated, had worked well; but in order to give effect to the proposed Convention between Barbados and the United States under which, with a view to secure a reduction in the duties on sugar and molasses exported to the latter country, the Colony of Barbados had agreed reciprocally to allow the majority,

certainly the most important, of American products to be admitted either free, or at considerably reduced rates, it became necessary to completely revise the Colony's fiscal arrangements. Accordingly, and in anticipation of the signing of the Convention, a new Tariff was introduced on the 26th June, 1899, under which while certain articles, to use the words of the Tariff Act (No. 16 of 1899), "the product of the soil or industry of the United States of America, of Great Britain and the British Possessions and of such countries as shall be entitled by Convention with Great Britain to the benefit of the Most Favoured Nation Treatment" obtained exceptional treatment, the duty on other imports was raised by as much as 50 per cent. in order to bring about the necessary adjustment of revenue. Contrary to expectation, the Convention was not ratified by the United States Senate, and the Colony was therefore free to withdraw the Tariff. It did so on the 15th May, 1900, not because it was not found to work satisfactorily, but because, owing to the depressed condition of the sugar industry, trade had fallen off and it became necessary to take special steps to restore the financial equilibrium. An Act (No. 18 of 1900) was therefore passed suspending what may be called the Convention Tariff, and authorising the imposition of an *ad valorem* duty of 15 per cent. as well as a substantial increase of duty upon several enumerated articles. This was really a special measure, and when it had secured its object it became unnecessary to keep it in force. Hence its repeal and the reversion on the 1st April, 1901, to the Tariff of the 1st January, 1897.

The revenue for the financial year under review exceeded the expenditure by £4,622, the revenue having amounted to £179,972 and the expenditure to £175,350.

The following tables compare the heads of revenue and expenditure with those of the financial year 1900-1901:—

Revenue.

Head.	1900-1.	1901-2.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	121,903	104,971	—	16,932
Port and Harbour dues ...	3,554	3,480	—	74
Excise	27,027	27,337	310	—
Licences	4,576	4,458	—	118
Police tax	3,768	3,854	86	—
Fees and fines and fees of office.	6,414	6,268	—	146
Post Office	6,041	6,086	45	—
Water works	9,774	11,575	1,801	—
Miscellaneous	12,254	11,943	—	311
Total	195,311	179,972	2,242	17,581

BARBADOS, 1901-2.

Expenditure.

Head.	1900-1.	1901-2.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	7,425	6,717	—	708
Post Office	9,004	9,266	262	—
Legal Departments	12,571	12,073	—	498
Police	22,680	22,211	—	469
Ecclesiastical	10,986	10,915	—	71
Education	18,043	16,752	—	1,291
Medical Departments	18,509	16,486	—	2,023
Water Works	28,300	27,020	—	1,280
Pensions	6,452	6,485	33	—
Subsidies and Grants	9,912	8,992	—	920
Public Works Recurrent	1,641	3,257	1,616	—
Miscellaneous... ..	39,952	35,176	—	4,776
Total	185,475	175,350	1,911	12,036

The total revenue and expenditure during the last five years is shown in the following table:—

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901-2.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue	184,706	182,682	216,017	185,474	179,972
Expenditure	172,551	185,840	207,883	182,865	175,350
Surplus	12,155	—	8,134	2,609	4,622
Deficit	—	3,158	—	—	—

There has been a gradual decrease in the expenditure on Establishments due to the working of the Retrenchment Act (No. 19 of 1896) under which upon the occurrence of vacancies certain offices cease to exist and others are curtailed in value. Every effort consistent with the maintenance of efficiency has been and is being made to curtail expenditure in every direction.

(B.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The Assets on the 31st March, 1902, exceeded the Liabilities of the Colony by £35,330 2s. 1½d., as shown by the following table:—

Assets.			Liabilities.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance to credit of General Revenue	...	...	Amount of Liabilities unpaid at 31st March	...	1,788 0 0
Due by the Vestry of St. Peter's parish	...	...	Balance of Assets over Liabilities	...	35,330 2 1½
Amount of Public Buildings Insurance Fund.	6,141	13 6			
Nominal Value.					
Due by the Water Boat Fund on account of the advance from General Revenue in part payment of Water Boat "Lady Hay."	307	17 3			
Due by the Governing Body of Harrison College	133	1 9½			
Due by Imperial Treasury on account of the expenditure in connexion with Sugar Cane Experiments.	604	2 1½			
Due by Directors of General Hospital	475	0 0			
Public Officers Security Fund—					
Invested	£750	0 0			
Uninvested (Savings Bank)	79	17 0			
	829	17 0			
Total	...	...	Total	...	37,118 2 1½

The disposal of the sum of £28,576 10s. 5½d. standing to the credit of General Revenue is shown as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Surplus Funds invested	16,172	13	5
Deposited at interest in Colonial Bank	5,474	12	2
Advanced to Imperial Commissioner...	775	0	0
Advanced to Government Savings Bank	2,000	0	0
Current Account in Colonial Bank ...	3,611	12	5
Cash in hand	542	12	5½
	<hr/>		
	£28,576	10	5½
	<hr/>		

(C.) PUBLIC DEBT.

The particulars of the Loans contracted by the Colony and the conditions governing their repayment can be seen by reference to the statements in G. 1. of the Blue Book.

The total amount of Public Debt on the 31st March, 1902, was £428,600, of which £375,000, is funded at 3½ per cent. and the remainder is unfunded. Of the sum of £375,000, which was raised for the purchase and extension of Water Works, a sum of £347,970 has been actually spent, the balance of £27,030 being either invested in suitable securities or placed on deposit in the Colonial Bank. (A sum of £810 0s. 7d. is in the hands of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, and is included in the balance shown by them to be due to the Colony.)

(D.) CURRENCY.

The Currency consists of Colonial Bank \$5 notes, and English gold and silver, chiefly florins, shillings, sixpences, and three-pences. English copper coins are in circulation. The Colonial Bank is the only bank in the Colony.

(E.) PUBLIC BOARDS.

The control of local affairs is in the hands of Local Boards bearing the ecclesiastical title of Vestries. The whole Island, it may be explained, is divided into eleven parishes, of which St. Michael is the most important, as in it is included the town

of Bridgetown in which all the commerce of the Island is centred. The arrangement dates back to the early history of the Colony. The Vestries are elected annually. The rector of each parish is *ex officio* a member of the vestry of the parish of which he is rector, and is chairman of the vestry. Each vestry elects a churchwarden and a treasurer. The former is chairman of the Poor Law Guardians of the parish and has a variety of duties to perform. He ranks next to the rector and presides at a vestry meeting when the rector is not present. The treasurer—a permanent officer—is responsible for the collection of the rates and taxes and is remunerated by getting 6 per cent. on the total sum collected. He issues dog, carriage, and other licenses, and has to make various returns required by Statute.

The vestries appoint annually Highway Commissioners, whose duty it is to look after the parish roads and to carry out the provisions of the Highways Act (No. 39 of 1900). They also appoint Sanitary Commissioners who see to the sanitary arrangements in their respective parishes and the administration of the approved Bye-laws; and, further, appoint three of their number to form a Board of Guardians for the administration of Poor Relief.

All rates for parochial purposes are fixed by the vestries, but, with few exceptions, their administrative functions are assumed by the several Boards which they appoint and which to all intents and purposes become independent bodies upon appointment.

The Government has little or no control over the vestries or over the boards which they appoint, but there is power to remove treasurers or collectors of taxes for breaches of duty or other misconduct. All parochial institutions are regularly inspected and reported upon by the Poor Law Inspector, who is appointed by the Governor, and his reports are very useful both to the Government and to the vestries.

Besides the rates for general local purposes, such as roads, bridges, sanitation, poor relief, and so forth, vestries can levy a rate "for the purpose of aiding and assisting in the support and maintenance of any parochial chapel," and also "for the purpose of paying the rent of a house or houses for the vicars or curates of the several chapels in their parish, or for the repair of such houses or of the rectory in the parish, and also for making grants-in-aid to religious bodies of all denominations for the repair of places of worship."

With this slight sketch of the Public Boards of the Island, the following figures may prove of more interest:—

Comparative statements of total Revenue and Expenditure by vestries for the last five years.

Revenue.

Parish.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael ...	21,695	22,263	23,066	22,709	24,857
Ch. Church ...	2,983	2,520	3,055	2,915	2,990
St. Philip ...	3,443	3,669	3,507	3,386	3,734
St. George ...	2,603	1,860	2,308	2,304	2,722
St. John ...	2,348	2,183	2,260	2,183	2,238
St. Thomas ...	1,416	1,434	1,331	1,469	2,640
St. Joseph ...	1,467	1,421	1,472	1,364	1,506
St. Andrew ...	1,468	1,252	1,240	1,347	1,411
St. James ...	1,621	1,563	1,545	1,421	1,495
St. Lucy ...	1,753	1,663	1,453	1,487	2,016
St. Peter ...	1,856	1,876	1,671	1,962	1,968
Totals ...	42,653	41,704	42,908	42,547	47,577

Expenditure.

Parish.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael ...	16,424	16,750	18,321	19,713	22,021
Ch. Church ...	2,549	2,553	3,019	2,813	2,896
St. Philip ...	2,761	3,221	3,398	2,984	3,178
St. George ...	2,037	1,850	2,180	2,035	2,394
St. John ...	2,119	2,014	2,161	2,070	2,088
St. Thomas ...	1,334	1,395	1,445	1,519	2,648
St. Joseph ...	1,365	1,354	1,399	1,164	1,214
St. Andrew ...	1,332	1,195	1,141	1,239	1,311
St. James ...	1,484	1,446	1,536	1,387	1,439
St. Lucy ...	1,635	1,681	1,551	1,594	1,657
St. Peter ...	1,543	1,812	1,646	1,804	2,013
Totals ...	34,583	35,271	37,797	38,322	42,859

Heads of Parochial Expenditure.

Parish.	Highways.	Sanitary.	Poor Relief.	Education of the Poor.	Maintenance of Churches, Rectories, &c.	Miscellaneous, including repayment of Loans, &c.	Salaries.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
St. Michael	4,163 6 9	4,309 16 4½	5,055 2 7½	336 1 4½	1,361 6 4	8,320 15 7½	2,638 0 3½	22,021 2 7½
Christ Church	1,554 17 7½	160 4 1	1,269 15 2½	97 19 4½	593 16 3	81 17 7	693 6 1½	2,896 18 7½
St. Philip ...	1,562 1 5½	75 0 0	1,645 1 0½	155 0 0	592 6 2	81 5 4	629 17 9	3,178 10 3½
St. George...	1,403 1 6½	62 13 6	1,045 1 4	101 4 6	551 11 2	43 4 3	590 2 3½	2,394 7 0½
St. John ...	1,183 19 6	30 19 5	1,102 5 2	121 16 4	255 10 8	70 2 9½	507 10 4	2,088 4 8½
St. Joseph...	943 5 10½	15 9 0	503 1 1½	71 4 6	193 6 7½	26 2 2	405 6 2½	1,214 9 7½
St. Thomas	894 15 1	58 14 9	592 11 2	110 14 2	1,282 10 9½	141 14 6	462 8 4	2,648 13 8½
St. James ...	967 6 5½	23 3 10	526 12 9½	105 12 6	286 9 3	44 2 4	452 16 4	1,438 17 0½
St. Andrew	946 0 1	12 10 0	500 2 10	110 16 8	152 18 5	184 11 6	349 16 3	1,310 15 8
St. Peter ...	796 13 2	37 5 5	675 9 3½	171 12 5½	292 19 6	149 15 2½	330 0 1	1,657 1 11½
St. Lucy ...	654 0 8	26 16 9	690 9 0½	182 12 8	315 17 11	375 18 7½	421 15 3½	2,013 10 3½

(F.) DEBTS OF MUNICIPALITIES.

The following are the debts incurred by the several parishes:—

Parish.			Amount.		
			£	s.	d.
St. Michael	...	...	16,531	8	6½
St. Thomas	...	...	7	14	1
St. Andrew	...	...	200	0	0
St. Lucy	...	...	160	0	0

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Considering the depressed condition of the staple industry, sugar, the trade of the Colony in bulk has on the whole been satisfactory, exceeding in value that of 1900 by £3,939.

Details of the principal articles of import during the calendar years 1900 and 1901 are given in the following table:—

Articles.	1900.	1901.	In-crease.	De-crease.
	£	£	£	£
Bread, Pilot, Navy and Crackers ...	21,087	25,134	4,047	—
Coal and Coke ...	28,026	25,892	—	2,134
Cornmeal ...	24,818	25,455	637	—
Cotton, Linen, Silk, and Woollen Manufactures.	152,752	179,976	27,224	—
Fish, dried, salted or smoked...	52,626	51,722	—	904
Flour ...	67,223	61,698	—	5,525
Hardware and Cutlery ...	19,974	25,844	5,970	—
Manures and Fertilizers—				
Guano ...	7,629	—	—	7,629
Nitrate of Soda ...	33,486	28,164	—	5,322
Sulphate of Ammonia ...	40,478	19,222	—	21,256
Unenumerated, &c. ...	25,153	30,614	5,461	—
Oats ...	21,263	19,890	—	1,373
Pork (salted or pickled) ...	29,345	20,353	—	8,992
Rice ...	84,412	44,389	—	40,023
Soap ...	17,893	17,562	—	331
Wood—				
Beech, W. Pine, &c. ...	13,077	18,147	5,070	—
Pitch Pine... ...	13,538	7,372	—	6,166
Staves ...	17,739	34,749	17,010	—
Shingles, Hoops, &c. ...	8,097	9,062	965	—

The most marked decreases are in connection with rice, flour, and manures. As regards rice, the local consumption averages 7,500,000 lbs. annually. There were some 4,000,000 lbs. on hand from the quantity imported in 1900, so that the amount

imported in 1901, namely, 8,079,899 lbs. less 3,731,691 required for re-exportation, sufficed to meet local requirements. The decrease in the importations of flour is to a great extent discounted by the increase under the heads of "Bread, Pilot, Navy and Crackers" and "Cornmeal." At the same time the decrease in the importation of these important foodstuffs must be partly set down to the reduction in the wages fund available for distribution in consequence of the depressed condition of the sugar industry. The Negro labourers have had less money to spend and consequently less food to eat.

The enormous reduction in the quantity of manures and fertilisers imported, amounting as it does to nearly 27 per cent., cannot be accounted for otherwise than by the necessity for decreasing expenditure upon sugar cultivation even at the risk of efficiency. The planters were without the money to spend and the outlook gave no indication of a rise in the price of sugar sufficient to warrant the merchants giving credit for the usual expenditure upon fertilizers. The import duty was reduced from the 1st April, 1901, from 8s. 4d. per ton to 4s. 2d. per ton.

The satisfactory increase in the importations of cotton and woollen manufactures as well as hardware and cutlery was no doubt principally due to the reduction in the *ad valorem* duty from 15 to 10 per cent. from the 1st April, 1901.

In textile manufactures, metal and other articles, Great Britain easily holds its own. It has practically no competitor. It exports to Barbados manufactures to the value of £356,700, out of a total supply of the value of £450,800. But in the matter of the supply of live animals and food-stuffs the United States takes the lead, for out of a total supply of the value of £361,592, a supply no less than £249,136 in value is received from the United States, Great Britain ranking next with £58,399, and British North America third, with £54,057.

It is satisfactory to note, when so much is being written about English manufactured goods being pushed out of the markets by American and German goods, that in this British Colony at any rate such is not the case.

The food-stuffs taken from the United States consist chiefly of flour, maize, cornmeal, bran, pollard, biscuits, and pork.

Total Value of Imports and Exports for the last Five Years.

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports ...	1,008,699	1,058,885	998,003	1,045,251	1,021,679
Exports ...	736,162	769,231	845,590	919,011	950,175
Total value of Trade.	1,744,861	1,828,116	1,843,596	1,964,262	1,971,854

Exports.

The exports in 1901 are represented to have amounted in value to £950,175, of which £744,008 was in respect of the produce of the Colony. The principal exports were sugar and molasses, but the following articles of commerce obtained by local industry were also exported to the value shown in the accompanying table in which a comparison with 1900 is given:—

Article.	1901.	1900.	In-crease.	De-crease.
	£	£	£	£
Chemical Manufactures and products	2,088	1,521	567	—
Earthenware	73	52	21	—
Raw Hides	2,326	2,618	—	292
Ice	1,066	1,192	—	126
Lime	2,910	2,676	234	—
Rum	1,153	2,903	—	1,750
Manjak	9,394	6,142	3,252	—
Whale Oil	972	922	50	—
Plants, Shrubs and Seeds	2,549	1,176	1,373	—
Poultry	221	177	44	—
Tamarinds	301	758	—	457
Dried, Preserved, Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.	6,452	8,652	—	2,200
	29,505	28,789	5,541	4,825

^a The manjak exported in 1900 was erroneously valued at £5 10s. a ton. It has been valued in 1901 at £9 a ton.

In the case of many articles of commerce Barbados acts as a dépôt for other West Indian Colonies. For example, the following articles imported into Barbados were re-exported in 1901 to the extent shown:—

Imports.	Quantity.
Bacon and Hams	26,966 lbs.
Beef salted or pickled	282,187 "
Bran and Pollard	55,511 "
Bread, Pilot Navy and Crackers	42,310 "
Butter	43,136 "
Margarine, Oleomargarine, &c....	120,695 "
Cheese	4,994 "
Coffee	36,154 "
Copper	60,590 "
Corn or Maize	640,947 "
Fish dried or salted	23,622 qtls.
Flour, Wheat or Rye	10,184 brls.
Grain, unenumerated	258,918 lbs.
Hay and Straw	140,367 "

Articles Imported into Barbados—continued.

Imports.							Quantity.
Lard	...	...	...	...	...	...	73,275 lbs.
Manures	...	...	...	...	...	...	965 tons.
Oilmeal and Oilcake	...	...	...	...	...	...	172,826 lbs.
Petroleum	...	...	...	...	...	...	34,839 glns.
Pork, salted or pickled	...	...	...	...	...	...	134,615 lbs.
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,731,691 „
Soap	...	...	...	...	...	...	969,887 „
Tobacco	...	...	...	...	...	...	32,183 „
Wood of all kinds	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,431,361 feet.

With regard to sugar and molasses, the products of the Colony, the exports during the last five years have been as follows:—

Articles.				1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
				Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.
Sugar—								
Muscovado	...	...		56,397	52,009	43,907	48,573	61,074
Dry	...	...		2,203	1,566	2,312	1,998	3,936
				Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.
Molasses	...	...		37,432	34,123	29,134	37,234	46,043

The bulk of the sugar manufactured in Barbados, both Muscovado and Dry is taken by the United States which geographically is its natural market. The molasses exports are chiefly to Canada. During the last five years the destination of the exports of sugar and molasses has been as follows:—

Muscovado Sugar.

Year.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	United States.	British West Indies.	Foreign West Indies.	French Guiana.
	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.
1897	1,500	524	54,363	1	9	—
1898	1,063	3,302	47,544	82	3	—
1899	723	535	42,415	230	3	—
1900	1,678	634	45,885	356	20	—
1901	2,226	1,156	57,186	491	13	2

Dry Sugar.

Year.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	United States.	British West Indies.	Foreign West Indies.	French Guiana.
	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.
1897	1,052	—	1,150	—	1	—
1898	154	65	1,294	37	8	—
1899	2	6	2,295	9	—	—
1900	51	5	1,890	52	—	—
1901	158	17	3,756	5	—	—

Molasses.

Year.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	United States.	British West Indies.	Foreign West Indies.	French Guiana.
	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.
1897	420	35,545	1,183	21	231	—
1898	183	32,853	1,053	3	18	—
1899	646	27,935	19	479	55	—
1900	287	34,909	1,706	307	5	—
1901	125	40,000	5,706	91	31	—

(B.) MINES, MANUFACTURES AND FISHERIES.

Asphaltum or Manjak.

The only mines are those in connection with the extraction of manjak, an industry which may be said to be still in its infancy. The first mine was opened on College Estate in January, 1896. In 1901 there were nine mines at work, and of these, three are in the hands of a company called the Barbados Manjak Mines, Limited, employing from 70 to 100 labourers daily, who are paid for tunnelling and timbering work by the piece or task.

At one mine, where only eight persons are employed at 1s. a day each, the annual output is about 200 tons. Here there is but one shaft and the manjak is brought to the surface by means of a winch worked by hand. The manjak from this mine realised an average price of £9 per ton, the refuse being disposed of at a much lower price.

There is no legislation requiring the owners of manjak mines to make returns to the Government, and they are not in any way under Government supervision. So far, no necessity has been shown for such supervision, excepting perhaps the extreme reticence on the part of most of the owners to afford information and statistics. The Customs returns show that during 1901 as many as 1,043 tons 16 cwts. were exported from Barbados. This quantity taken at the value of £9 a ton places the gross value of the industry at £9,394.

Manjak or glance pitch, as it is sometimes called, is used for making the varnish known as brunswick black, for insulating electric cables, &c.

The export of manjak during the last five years is stated to have been as follows:—

Year.	Tons.
1897	1,890
1898	1,160
1899	1,026
1900	1,120
1901	1,043

Petroleum.

In the same district in which the asphaltum or manjak deposits are found, petroleum exists in small quantities. This industry is also in its infancy, and in the absence of legislation and Government supervision the yield and money value of it cannot be ascertained. There are some 19 wells, and of these there are about 12 which vary in depth from 60 feet to 1,000 feet and from 4 to 6 inches in diameter, yielding about 1,400 gallons of oil per week. About 16 persons are employed in the actual collection of petroleum and they are paid by task work, about 10*d.* per 50 gallons.

The petroleum is disposed of locally at a price of 2*d.* to 6*d.* per gallon, and is used as fuel and for lubricating machinery on some of the sugar estates.

The annual output may be stated at 7,200 gallons—worth about £1,000.

Manufactures.

The most important manufacture is that of rum, which is for the most part consumed locally. There were six distilleries at work during the first half of the year, but two of them, after a keen competition for sales, amalgamated. The amount of rum distilled in 1901 was 261,918 gallons. Of this quantity 220,365 gallons were consumed in Barbados and 15,376 gallons exported. The local consumption of rum, taking the population at 196,000, was 1·12 gallons per head.

Other local manufactures are:—

- Sulphuric acid.
- Chemical manures.
- Lime.
- Tobacco.
- Matches.
- Chocolate.
- Ice.
- Aerated waters.

and late in the year an oleo-margarine factory was started.

The value of the lime exported in 1901 amounted to £2,910. The lime is taken chiefly by the Colony of British Guiana.

Fisheries.

These are not unimportant and give employment to a comparatively large number of persons. But they are not in any way worked systematically or to the best advantage. Cured or salted fish is very largely consumed in Barbados, the quantity imported, chiefly from Canada, exceeding £50,000 in value annually. It is worth while to ascertain whether, in the waters which encompass the Island and which already yield to the present more or less primitive methods of catching fish, such excellent fish as dolphin, snapper and flying-fish, and a variety resembling white-bait, there are not also large fish which when caught could be salted and placed within the reach of the people at about half the price which they now have to pay for the imported fish. A proposal to obtain the report of an expert upon the sea fisheries of the Island with a view to see what could be done in the matter was, to my great regret, not at the time favourably entertained, but I hope later that this decision will be reversed.

What is known as the "sea-egg" forms a staple food, but the takings in recent years have considerably diminished. In 1879 an Act was passed providing for a close season, but this Act although it has certainly done good has not had the desired effect of altogether preventing a falling off in the supply. It is now considered that what is wanted is not so much a close season, although that is desirable, as the establishment of propagating areas or reserve grounds within which the gathering of sea-eggs would not be permitted. Here again the report of an expert would be useful, as he would be able to indicate the best areas for reserves and also to say whether the re-stocking of the selected grounds is necessary.

Whales are caught off the coast in small numbers and give employment to a few persons. The exports of oil have been as follows:—

	Year.	Barrels.	Value.
			£
	1899	254	423
	1900	553	922
	1901	583	972

(C.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

The cultivation of the sugar cane is the agricultural industry of absorbing importance in Barbados. The soil and climate are

adapted to it, and labour is plentiful. Nearly all the available area of the Island is under sugar cultivation, which has been brought to a very high standard of efficiency. It is when the manufacturing process commences that a lack of progress is observable. There are 445 sugar estates, and of these 343 are dependent upon wind power for cane crushing. 102 estates have installed machinery worked by steam and of these 8 have vacuum pans. Not a single estate has as yet installed the requisite machinery for the extraction of the maximum quantity of juice obtainable from the canes, and in the present critical state of the industry this is not to be looked for excepting with the assistance of the Government. The matter is necessarily engaging attention. The majority of planters have long seen the necessity for better methods, but the gradual reduction in the market price of sugar, due in a great measure to the artificial support given to the beet sugar producers, and the lack of combination among themselves, have prevented their finding the requisite capital. At the close of the year the question of the hour was not so much the improvement of methods of manufacture by the establishment of central factories or otherwise as the saving of the sugar industry, and the vast population dependent upon it for support from absolute ruin. The reassembling of the Brussels Conference at the instigation of the Imperial Government for the purpose of considering the general abolition of bounties is looked forward to with keen interest, as upon the result arrived at depends in a great measure the possibility of the local Government being able to maintain the credit of the Colony and to arrive at some means for keeping the population in employment. When this has been secured as far as possible, the question of the establishment of central factories will have to be taken up and finally dealt with.

Minor Industries.

Arrowroot.

Foremost among the minor industries, apart from the Island sea fisheries, and what are known as "catch crops" on sugar estates, may be placed the cultivation of arrowroot. This cultivation is almost entirely confined to the parishes of St. Joseph and St. Andrew (there being only about 1 acre in St. John's parish) and in the first two parishes principally on the lands sloping towards the sea. On these lands, swept as they are by the sea breezes, it appears to be possible to cultivate arrowroot with success.

Note.— On the 6th of March a telegram was received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies stating that a Convention had on the previous day been signed at Brussels abolishing bounties from September, 1903.

About 336 acres are under arrowroot cultivation as follows:—

Parish.	Acres.
St. Andrew's	273
St. Joseph's	62
St. John's	1

The industry is at present entirely in the hands of the peasants who carry on the cultivation in small plots, the largest being three acres in extent on Cambridge plantation in the parish of St. Andrew.

It is difficult to arrive at the number of persons who are engaged in the industry because of the smallness of the plots and because it is carried on by labourers in their spare moments—early in the morning before going to work in the sugar plantations and during the evening after their return. But assuming that each labourer worked four days per week, that is 208 days per annum, continuous occupation would be afforded to 162 persons. As a matter of fact, however, as many as 700 persons must be engaged in arrowroot cultivation, most of them as already stated, during their spare time.

The greater part of the arrowroot made in Barbados is sold in the country districts by what are locally known as “starch sellers.” These sellers are either the producers themselves or are persons who buy the arrowroot and retail it. The annual yield is about 2,700 barrels and the value, at the low price of 9s. per 100 lbs., about £5,000.

Most of the imported arrowroot comes from St. Vincent and is sold in Bridgetown. As there is an import duty of 2s. 6d. per 100 lbs. to which must be added the cost of freight and the middleman’s commission there is still room for the local expansion of the Island product apart from the possibility of making it an article of export. Before exportation can take place there must be considerable improvement in manufacture by the erection of suitable factories provided with modern appliances.

Cacao.

There are a few cacao trees here and there, but judging from their appearance it is unlikely that cacao growing can ever assume any importance in Barbados. Both soil and climate appear to be unsuitable.

Nutmegs and Spices.

I have seen nutmeg trees growing well in gullies and ravines, but there is no systematic cultivation, and it is doubtful whether

suitable areas sufficiently large could be obtained to admit of cultivation being conducted on a commercial scale.

Botanical Station.

In Barbados which is so entirely devoted to growing sugar cane there is little scope for a botanical station to greatly influence what is known as the "Minor Industries," and the energies of that institution are mainly directed to assisting the sugar planters in ascertaining by experiment the best manures suited to the different districts of the Island and in growing and testing new varieties of sugar canes obtained from seeds and from other countries. The manurial and varietal plots thus experimented with, amounted in 1901 to 7,313 covering an area of 70½ acres, dotted here and there about the Colony.

Efforts in other directions have been made, notably in endeavouring to establish a trade with England in sweet potatoes.

At my suggestion the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies addressed a circular letter to several vegetable dealers in England offering, with the co-operation of some of the planters, to deliver to each for a limited period, a barrel of sweet potatoes once every fortnight for free distribution or for sale at a nominal price. The Commissioner was also good enough to prepare for distribution along with the sweet potatoes a pamphlet containing fifteen recipes for cooking them.

After potatoes had been supplied for some weeks, a trial shipment of four lots of ten barrels each were consigned to Messrs. James Philip & Company, 4, Fenchurch Buildings, London. The results have so far been satisfactory. The average gain after deducting all expenses in excess of what the planters would have obtained locally amounted to £3 17s. 5d. per acre, or an increase of 56·64 per cent. The potatoes arrived in good condition and the industry would, I believe, become a profitable one, if, as I anticipate, it can be found possible to extend the sales. The appointment of agents to make sweet potatoes known in Great Britain and to push sales is under consideration.

There is another vegetable, the yam, which should prove an acceptable addition to the food supply of the United Kingdom, and an effort will shortly be made by the Commissioner of Agriculture to put it on the English markets, where it ought to meet with a ready sale.

Owing to the depressed state of the sugar market the price of land has fallen, and a few planters and others do not now think it too valuable for growing a few fruit trees. Consequently there has been a small demand for fruit plants of the better sorts. This has been met by the sale of grafted mango plants from the Botanic Station and by the importation from the neighbouring colonies of other varieties of mangos, budded orange plants, pine-apple suckers. &c.

In response to a request made by the Barbados General Agricultural Society the Imperial Department of Agriculture gave during August, September and October a series of lectures to planters "affording information and assistance in elucidating scientific problems which underlie the agricultural practice in which they are daily engaged." Six lectures in all were given and were very largely attended.

(D.) LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

There are no Crown Lands. In the present condition of the sugar industry it is not an easy matter to determine the average value of land. It varies in different localities according to its suitability for the cultivation of the sugar cane. Land in Barbados is probably as cheap now as it ever will be. Estates sold by auction might realise a sum calculated at as low a rate as £10 an acre.

(E.) SHIPPING.

The total tonnage entering and clearing during the year was 1,476,166, being an increase compared with 1900 of 114,700 tons.

There were 373 entries of British steamers and 43 entries of foreign steamers, being an increase of 34 in the former case and a decrease of 2 in the latter.

The entries of British sailing vessels amounted to 593, and of foreign sailing vessels to 76, being a decrease in the former case of 45 and in the latter of 6.

The number, tonnage and nationality of steam and sailing vessels entering the Colony during 1900 and 1901 is shown in the following tables:—

Steamers.

Nationality.	1900.		1901.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British ...	339	565,350	373	617,966	34	52,616	—	—
Foreign.								
American	—	—	1	1,942	1	1,942	—	—
Belgian ...	3	5,886	2	5,142	—	—	1	744
Dutch ...	—	—	3	2,871	3	2,871	—	—
French ...	18	1,595	8	681	—	—	10	914
German ...	10	12,439	14	20,126	4	7,687	—	—
Norwegian	14	16,378	15	18,661	1	2,283	—	—
Totals...	384	601,648	416	667,389	43	67,399	11	1,658

Sailing Vessels.

Nationality.	1900.		1901.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British ...	638	59,442	593	45,063	—	—	45	14,379
Foreign.								
American	31	14,074	36	18,997	5	4,923	—	—
Dutch ...	27	1,937	19	1,603	—	—	8	334
Danish ...	3	423	2	402	—	—	1	21
French ...	3	128	4	549	1	421	—	—
Venezuelan	9	649	4	255	—	—	5	394
Russian ...	2	696	5	1,725	3	1,029	—	—
Norwegian	3	1,068	3	1,347	—	279	—	—
Italian ...	1	583	1	574	—	—	—	9
Portuguese	—	—	1	164	1	164	—	—
Austrian...	1	646	1	533	—	—	—	113
Swedish ...	1	253	—	—	—	—	1	253
German ...	1	1,134	—	—	—	—	1	1,134
Totals...	720	81,015	669	71,212	10	6,816	61	16,619

It will be seen from the foregoing tables that sailing vessels are giving way to steamers as cargo carriers, and that so far as Barbados is concerned the carrying trade is almost entirely in British hands. An increase in the number of German steamers visiting the Island is, however, noticeable.

The following table compares the total shipping entered and cleared during the last five years:—

Years.			Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1897	...	...	2,383	1,335,962
1898	...	...	2,258	1,320,014
1899	...	...	2,056	1,265,417
1900	...	...	2,199	1,361,466
1901	...	...	2,163	1,476,166

The following tables give (1) Comparative Return of Shipping entered and cleared during 1900 and 1901, (2) Comparative Return of Shipping entered and cleared from 1897 to 1901, and (3) Analysis of Shipping entered and cleared during 1900 and 1901:—

Comparative Shipping Return for the Years 1900 and 1901 (Entered and Cleared).

Description.	1900.				1901.				Increase.				Decrease.			
	Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
Steamers ...	676	90	1,127,688	72,596	746	85	1,236,982	97,668	70	—	109,294	25,072	—	5	—	—
Sailing Vessels ...	1,269	164	117,517	43,665	1,181	151	89,857	51,659	—	—	—	7,994	88	13	27,660	—
Total ...	1,945	254	1,245,205	116,261	1,927	236	1,326,839	149,327	70	—	109,294	33,066	88	18	27,660	—

Comparative Statement of Total Shipping Entered and Cleared from 1897 to 1901.

	1897.		1898.		1899.		1900.		1901.	
	Ships.		Ships.		Ships.		Ships.		Ships.	
	Tonnage.		Tonnage.		Tonnage.		Tonnage.		Tonnage.	
Total entered and cleared ...	2,383	1,335,962	2,258	1,320,014	2,056	1,265,417	2,199	1,361,466	2,163	1,476,166

12611

Analysis of Shipping Entered and Cleared 1900 and 1901.

Nationality.	1900.		1901.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British...	1,945	1,245,205	1,927	1,326,839	—	81,634	18	—
American	62	28,148	5	41,959	13	13,811	—	—
Dutch ..	53	3,805	44	8,944	—	5,139	9	—
Danish...	6	846	4	804	—	—	2	42
French	42	3,446	24	2,460	—	—	18	986
Italian ..	3	1,754	2	1,148	—	—	1	606
Venezuelan	18	1,298	8	510	—	—	10	788
Russian	4	1,392	9	3,119	5	1,727	—	—
Swedish	2	470	—	—	—	—	2	470
Norwegian	34	34,892	34	38,453	—	3,561	—	—
German	22	27,146	28	40,252	6	13,106	—	—
Austrian	2	1,292	2	1,066	—	—	—	226
Belgian	6	11,772	4	10,284	—	—	2	1,488
Portuguese	—	—	2	328	2	328	—	—
Total	2,199	1,361,466	2,163	1,476,166	26	119,306	62	4,606

III.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-five Acts were passed in 1901, and of these the more important were the following:—

The Customs Tariff Act, No. 2. By this Act the Customs Tariff Act, No. 16 of 1899, which had been passed in order to give effect to the Convention for reciprocal trade relations between the United States of America and Barbados then expected to be concluded, and the several Acts amending it, were suspended until such time as the Convention should be ratified.

The Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, No. 8. By this Act the rate of interest upon Savings Bank Deposits which had been somewhat hastily reduced to 2 per cent. by Act No. 28 of 1900 was increased to 2½ per cent.

The Railway Act, No. 11. The object of this Act is to minimise the number of cane fires caused by sparks emitted from the railway locomotives or by cinders dropped out of the ash receptacles. Power is given to the Government to appoint an Inspector of Locomotives, and a penalty is imposed in the case of locomotives which are used without being fitted with preventive appliances.

The Surplus Revenue Investment Act, No. 12. This Act authorises the investment of £16,000 of the surplus revenue remaining on hand on the 31st March, 1901, and with the sanction of the Legislature the whole or part of any future surplus in such securities as the Governor in Executive Committee may determine, the object being to provide a fund for use in connection with undertakings for the general benefit of the Colony or to meet deficiencies of revenue in bad years.

The Cane Fires (Prevention) Act, No. 18. This Act is a complement of Act No. 11, already referred to. Its object is to minimise cane fires due to careless smokers or to acts of incendiarism which had become very prevalent.

The Volunteer Act, No. 21. This Act provides for the formation of a Volunteer Force, a matter which had long been under consideration.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A.) PRIMARY.

The number of elementary schools in the Colony at the close of the year was 168, being 1 less than in 1900, an infant school having been closed. All the schools are in connection with religious bodies as follows:—

Denomination.				No.
Church of England	...	...	...	133
Wesleyan	...	...	...	19
Moravian	...	...	...	16

and are classified by the Education Board in the following manner:—

—		Boys.	Girls.	Mixed.	Total.
Primary	...	1	2	8	11
Combined	...	47	44	19	110
Infant	...	—	—	47	47
Total	...	48	46	74	168

An effort is being made to gradually extinguish mixed schools, and during the year 3 of these were divided into boys' and girls' schools.

There are about 40,000 children in the Colony of the school age, and of these the number on the registers in 1901 was 23,660, the average attendance being returned at 13,547, showing a falling off in the former case of 485 and in the latter of 248. 18,887 children presented themselves for examination. The falling off in the number of children under instruction is attributable to the depressed condition of the sugar industry whereby the wages of the labouring classes have become so curtailed as to render it difficult for them to pay the small fees required from children attending the schools.

The attendance of children at school is not compulsory. They are admitted at the age of four years and are allowed to remain until they have passed Standard VII. or have reached the age of 16 years.

The training of pupil teachers is a matter to which the Board of Education has given much consideration, and in the case of female teachers arrangements have been made to send two or more annually to the Training College at Antigua.

(B.) SECONDARY.

The Legislature did not render any assistance to Secondary Education before 1858, but private benefactors had long before that date established more than one excellent High school. At the present time the following schools are in existence:—

School.	Locality.	Remarks.
For Boys, 1st Grade— Harrison College ...	Bridgetown ...	Has a Staff of nine Masters, of whom eight are graduates of English Universities. Attached to this College is a well equipped Chemical Laboratory. The Science Staff consists of the Island Professor of Chemistry, an Assistant Professor and a Lecturer provided by the Imperial Department of Agriculture.
The Lodge School ...	Parish of St. John	Has a Staff of three Masters all graduates of English Universities.
For Boys, 2nd Grade— Combermere School ...	Bridgetown ...	The Staff consists of six Masters, of whom the Head Master is a graduate of an English University.
Coleridge School ...	Parish of St. Peter	Has a Staff of three Masters.
Parry School ...	Parish of St. Lucy	Has a Staff of two Masters.
Alleyne School...	Parish of St. Andrew.	Has only one Master.
For Girls, 1st Grade— Queen's College ...	Bridgetown ...	Has a Staff of nine Mistresses and a Master for teaching physical exercises.
For Girls, 2nd Grade— Alexandra School ...	Parish of St. Peter	Has a Staff of three Mistresses.
Victoria School ...	Parish of St. Andrew.	Has only one Mistress.

The range of work in the First Grade Schools for Boys extends from an average upper Fifth Standard to the level of open University Scholarships, and comprises the following subjects—Greek, Latin, English, French, German, Divinity, Mathematics and Science.

Girls are admitted to Queen's College who can pass a simple examination in reading, writing and arithmetic. The work of the school extends to that of the Senior Cambridge Local Honours Certificate.

The fees charged for boys attending the First Grade Schools are:—

Preparatory Form	...	...	£5 a year.
First Form	...	...	£10 „
All other Forms	...	...	£15 „

For girls the fees are:—

Preparatory Form	...	...	£3 15 0 a year.
Lower Forms	...	...	£7 10 0 „
Upper Forms	...	...	£10 0 0 „

Attached to the two boys' schools are 30 exhibitions, viz., 20 junior and 10 senior, a sum of £350 being annually voted by the Legislature for the purpose. Only boys who are natives of the Colony are eligible, and they must be sons of parents not in well-to-do circumstances.

To the Second Grade Schools which are designed to furnish a commercial education, boys are admitted at the age of seven, and in ordinary circumstances are allowed to remain until the age of 17, and, with special permission, up to 19. Girls are admitted at the age of seven and are allowed to remain to the age of 15, and, with special permission, up to 18.

To Second Grade Schools for Boys there are 60 exhibitions of £5 each, 20 being awarded annually, and tenable for three years. Any boy under 12 years of age can compete. At the expiration of the three years' limit an exhibitor can renew his exhibition by passing a more difficult examination, and can then keep the exhibition up to the age of 16.

Every school receives a fixed grant from the Government, and the grant together with the fees of pupils and, in one or two cases, private endowments, are the sources from which the income of each is derived. The sums voted annually by the Government are £2,250 to First Grade Schools (including exhibitions), and £1,100 to Second Grade Schools (including exhibitions).

The number of pupils ordinarily in receipt of secondary education is,—First Grade Schools, 300; Second Grade Schools, 240.

University Education.

There is in the Colony, in the parish of St. John, a college founded by the benevolence of General Sir Christopher Codrington, a native of Barbados, and a proprietor of estates in that parish. He bequeathed the whole of his landed property to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a college or school for the higher education of the youth of the Island, and for supplying trained ministers for the work of the church in the West Indies. It is known as Codrington College.

The erection of the buildings was commenced in 1714 and completed in 1743. It has passed through many vicissitudes until in 1829 it was remodelled as a strictly collegiate institution. In 1875, through the influence of Bishop Mitchinson, the college was affiliated to Durham University, and since then the course of study is that directed by the Senate of that University. All students at Codrington College are admissible to all degrees, licences, and academical ranks in the several Faculties of the University.

From 1830 to the present time 830 students have matriculated at Codrington College. The staff consists of a principal and two professors.

Four scholarships of the annual value of £40 each are provided by the Government tenable at Codrington College for a period of two years. They are eligible only to natives or the sons of natives of Barbados, or of persons domiciled in the Island with a residence of ten years. Candidates must be under 20 years of age.

Besides these scholarships there are four scholarships each of the annual value of £175, termed the Barbados Scholarship. One is awarded annually and tenable for four years at an English University or at an Agricultural or Technical College in Europe or America to be approved by the Education Board. The conditions as to age and birth are the same as those for the scholarships at Codrington College.

(C.) INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL, AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

During the year the lectures to the teachers of the elementary schools inaugurated by the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture have been continued, and for the first time prizes were given by the Imperial Department of Agriculture at the local Show for peasants, to pupils from these schools for the best exhibits of the commoner vegetables growing in pots, boxes, &c. This is a step in the right direction and cannot fail to be of the highest value in inculcating the best methods of growing plants, and the main principles which underlie the practice of agriculture. 34 teachers have received certificates as being competent to give instruction in agriculture.

It is intended to hold annual exhibitions of plain needle-work and to give money prizes to successful competitors with a view to encourage the acquisition of a good knowledge of this useful branch of school work by the girls in the elementary schools. The necessary grant of money has been made by the Legislature.

The question of starting an industrial school for the purpose of teaching useful handicrafts to lads has been under consideration. Suitable buildings for the purpose exist, and a scheme for teaching carpentry, plumbing, mason and smith work, &c., has been worked out. It is hoped that when the circumstances of the Colony improve and money becomes available this important matter will be taken up.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) HOSPITAL.

The General Hospital, which is located in Bridgetown, is not a Government institution, but is now almost wholly maintained by an annual grant from the Government of £6,630. It is managed by a somewhat unwieldy Board of 19 trustees and directors, presided over by the Governor, but the conduct of the general internal arrangements is placed in the hands of a House Committee appointed annually by the Board.

The hospital contains 236 beds, and is available to the sick from all the parishes of the Island. On the 1st of April, 1901, there were 188 patients remaining from the previous month, and during the year 3,833 patients were admitted, making a total of 4,021 under treatment during the year.

Early in 1901 complaints were made by the vestries of the out-parishes that they could not always obtain admission for their cases in consequence of the beds being unfairly allotted to cases from the parish of St. Michael. The complaint on investigation was not substantiated, and the out-lying parishes were asked to make greater use of the hospital.

The following table shows the parochial and other admissions during the last five years:—

Year.	Admissions from each parish.											Seamen.	Other persons.	Totals.
	St. Michael.	Ch. Church.	St. John.	St. Philip.	St. George.	St. Thomas.	St. James.	St. Peter.	St. Andrew.	St. Joseph.	St. Lucy.			
1897	1,976	817	81	149	244	112	165	95	58	89	40	105	5	3,489
1898	2,221	484	64	154	235	74	157	108	58	87	82	120	18	3,807
1899	2,159	451	72	184	198	82	159	81	60	82	78	89	9	3,684
1900	1,958	844	57	182	198	74	148	102	71	70	57	61	15	3,337
1901	2,225	879	74	198	280	108	166	79	76	89	51	98	20	3,833

The results obtained during the last five years are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Total admissions.	Discharges.			Deaths.	Percent. of deaths to cases.	Daily average resident.
		Cured.	Re-lieved.	Not re-lieved.			
1897 ...	3,439	2,210	810	203	188	5·2	208
1898 ...	3 807	2,230	1,146	161	281	7·0	211
1899 ...	3 684	1,872	1,539	77	210	5·3	209
1900 ...	3,337	2,172	789	94	234	6·7	196
1901 ...	3,883	2,330	1,184	79	297	7·3	217

The most noteworthy diseases treated during the year were:—

Diseases.		Cases.	Deaths.
Typhoid ...	...	177	43
Dysentery ...	...	163	19
Diarrhoea ...	...	90	16
Cellulitis ...	...	109	—
Tuberculosis ...	...	32	18
Phthisis ...	...	76	13

The total number of out-patients treated was 19,856, being an increase of 2,360 over the number treated in 1900.

During the year considerable changes have been made in the personnel of the hospital whereby a better supervision over expenditure has been obtained and economies thereby effected, especially in connection with the dispensary.

(B.) ASYLUMS.

Lunatic Asylum.

The total number of lunatics in the asylum on the 31st December was 369, and of this number 89 were admitted during the year. Of these 73 were admitted for the first time, and 16 were re-admitted after periods varying from 1·10 years to 17·04 years.

The health of the inmates has been good. The average number of inmates employed daily was 92, viz., 44 men and 48 women. The men are employed as agriculturists, gardeners, tailors, carpenters, herdsman, and in cleaning and general work, and the women in needle-work, gardening, weeding, cleaning and laundry work.

The farm produce consisting of pork, milk, vegetables, and fruit realised £579 10s. 1d., estimated at contract prices. Much more might be made out of the farm attached to the asylum, and it is intended to give more attention to this very important branch of work.

Lazaretto.

Although under the existing law only lepers without visible means of subsistence can be compulsorily segregated the asylum is always quite full. It is well known that many leprous persons are at large who by their calling are a danger to the community. As soon as funds are available for providing additional lazaretto accommodation, the cost of which has been ascertained, and the lines upon which it is to be given practically settled, the Legislature will be asked to strengthen the hands of the Government with a view to secure the complete segregation of all lepers either privately under suitable regulations and supervision or in the public institution. In an Island like Barbados it should be quite possible to stamp out and get rid of this very loathsome disease, and it is most unfortunate that the absence of funds prevents any action being taken at once.

The number of inmates in the lazaretto on the 31st December was 112, namely, 61 males and 51 females. Of these, 11 males and 6 females were admitted during the year. There were 16 deaths.

(C.) POOR HOUSES.

There are 11 poor houses, that is to say, one in each parish. They are under the management of the parochial Guardians of the Poor who are appointed annually by their respective vestries.

During 1901 as many as 23,120 persons received parochial relief of some kind as shown in the following table:—

Parish.	Visits of Parochial Medical Officers.	Relief at Dispensary.	Out-relief in money or food.	Admitted to the Alms-house.	Totals.
St. Michael ...	689	3,538	1,310	2,019	7,556
St. Philip ...	144	2,826	489	491	3,950
Christ Church ...	49	1,469	383	366	2,267
St. George ...	112	490	124	271	997
St. John ...	118	1,516	202	248	2,084
St. Thomas ...	112	649	29	374	1,164
St. James ...	120	197	143	151	611
St. Peter ...	104	224	177	102	607
St. Lucy ...	238	585	381	184	1,388
St. Andrew ...	162	552	140	125	979
St. Joseph ...	36	1,073	126	282	1,517
Totals ...	1,884	13,119	3,504	4,613	23,120

A dispensary now exists in every parish and cheap medical relief, as apart from poor relief, can be obtained in most of the parishes as the result of arrangement between the Board of Guardians and the parochial medical officer.

The following table gives the number of admissions, discharges and deaths and daily average of each poor-house, or almshouse, as it is called:—

Parish.	Daily Average.	Admissions.	Total Treated.	Discharges.	Deaths.
St. Michael ...	768	1,291	2,019	958	310
St. Philip ...	119	361	491	312	49
Christ Church ...	120	239	366	194	52
St. George ...	112	157	271	128	38
St. John ...	99	143	248	115	28
St. Thomas ...	106	264	374	223	52
St. James ...	63	81	151	61	20
St. Lucy ...	70	115	184	101	16
St. Andrew ...	46	77	125	61	18
St. Peter ...	55	46	102	40	10
St. Joseph ...	75	206	282	185	25
Totals ...	1,633	2,980	4,613	2,378	618

On the 27th November, in consequence of a minute which I addressed to the President of the Central Poor Law Board urging a more general uniformity among the several parishes as to the lines which poor relief should follow, a conference was held in the House of Assembly Room at which the Board of Guardians of every parish was represented.

The Government Poor Law Inspector reports that "the result of the conference was on the whole very satisfactory, and there can be no doubt that such conferences should be held regularly every year at least. They would undoubtedly result in the welding together of the various methods of poor relief administration."

The actual expenditure upon the public and parochial institutions is shown in the following table, in which a comparison with that of 1900 is given:—

Year.	Hospital.	Lunatic Asylum.	Lazaretto.	Parochial.	Total.
1900 ...	£ 6,978	£ 5,733	£ 2,725	£ 16,945	£ 32,382
1901 ...	6,694	5,283	2,417	17,600	31,995
Increase ...	—	—	—	654	—
Decrease ...	283	449	308	—	387

(D.) REFORMATORY.

Boys Reformatory.

The number of lads in the institution on the 1st January was 118; 45 were discharged during the year and 51 were admitted. The lads came from all parts of the Colony, but chiefly from Bridgetown. Of the 51 lads admitted more than half could neither read nor write, and only 11 were anywhere near the ordinary standards for boys of their age. The average cost of maintenance of each boy, excluding from the calculation the salaries of the Reformatory staff, was £5 11s. 2½d. for the year. This is 6s. per head higher than in 1900, and is principally due to the rise in the price of food-stuffs and clothing. Taking staff salaries and all expenses in connection with the Reformatory into calculation, the average cost for each boy was at the rate of £13 8s. 10d.

During the three years ended the 31st December, 1901, 98 boys were discharged. Of these so far as it has been possible to ascertain, 29 have been re-convicted, that is, 29·6 per cent.; and of these 15 were on charges of theft. Of the remaining 69, 21 are agricultural labourers, 16 are servants in various capacities, 6 have emigrated, 2 are bakers' apprentices, 1 is a carpenter's apprentice, 1 a saddler's apprentice, 1 a blacksmith's apprentice, 1 a tailor's apprentice, 1 a boatman, 1 a fisherman, 1 a stevedore, 6 are otherwise in employment, and 11 are idlers or out of employment. With regard to the comparatively large number of lads who have failed to become good citizens after discharge, the Superintendent of the Reformatory writes as follows:—

“While the failure of some of the boys to do well is due to their own evil tendencies, there is no doubt that a large number of re-convictions is attributable to the general and extreme state of depression in the labour market and to their adverse surrounding conditions in an overcrowded Colony where much poverty and want are to be found.”

Something could be done to assist lads upon their discharge, and to reduce the number of those who give themselves up to crime and evil ways if money were available for the purpose. The best solution of the difficulty which the boys experience in finding suitable employment is emigration; but in the present depressed state of the sugar industry it is impossible to augment expenditure. Consideration is being given to the question of apprenticing 10 lads annually to masters of schooners trading to and from Barbados so as to make a percentage of those who are discharged useful as seamen. The proposed arrangement if it can be carried out will not be costly.

The employment of the boys while in the Reformatory consists mainly of agricultural work, but masonry, tailoring, gardening

and mat-making are also taught. All have to attend the Reformatory School at stated times, and of the 123 boys who were in the institution when the Inspector of Schools held his inspection, 89 were presented for examination with the following results:—

—	Boys passed.	Per cent.
In reading	86	96
In arithmetic	79	88
In dictation	82	92
In religious knowledge	80	89

Girls Reformatory.

It is intended to start a Reformatory for Girls as soon as the financial condition of the Colony warrants the necessary expenditure. The institution is much wanted, as at the present time the only way of dealing with girls who commit penal offences is by reprimands from the Bench, by fine, or by imprisonment. Fines are only very rarely paid, the girls who incur them having as a rule defied such parental authority as was ever exercised over them, and having become more or less outcasts from their homes. The requisite buildings are available on a very suitable site, and all that has to be done is to find the money to fit them up and to appoint the requisite staff. The cost for the first year for the maintenance of 60 girls is estimated at £970, and for subsequent years at £740.

(E.) SAVINGS BANK.

During the first quarter of the year the bank suffered from the operation of the Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, No. 28 of 1900, whereby the rate of interest had been reduced from 3 to 2 per cent.; but from the 1st April the rate was increased to 2½ per cent. by the Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, No. 8 of 1901, and the withdrawal of deposits on account of the reduction was thereupon arrested.

On the 31st December, 1900, the balance due to depositors, including interest, was £210,919 11s. 3d. On the 31st of December, 1901, it amounted to £199,275 18s. 2d. In connection with this reduction it is to be noted that during the first quarter of the year when the rate of interest was only 2 per cent., the withdrawals exceeded the deposits by no less a sum than £12,629 8s. 8d.

The following table gives a comparative statement of the bank's transactions during the last five years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors on 31st December.	Deposits.	With- drawals.	Sum including interest at credit of Depositors on 31st December.
		£	£	£
1897	12,278	104,829	87,092	213,984
1898	12,859	87,257	86,508	220,831
1899	13,270	102,125	105,732	223,417
1900	13,238	93,782	111,597	210,920
1901	13,420	104,348	120,393	199,276

The assets of the bank were on the 31st December valued as follows:—

	£
Consols	16,065
Colonial Government Inscribed Stock ...	152,765
Barbados Government Debentures ...	26,000
Barbados Parochial Loans	2,177
Cash at Colonial Bank	2,453
In hands of Crown Agents	983
Loan to Imperial Department of Agriculture.	550
Cash in hand	595
	£201,588
Investments in Barbados Sugar Estates	6,600
	£208,188

The last investment which is placed by itself and which was made some years when the sugar industry was flourishing is now of doubtful value.

After the payment of interest to depositors and the expenses of management, there remained a balance of profit amounting to £2,048 for the year.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Considerable attention has been given during the year to the position of the registered Friendly Societies. I found that no less than 163 such societies existed and it was clear that with a population of 195,600 so many societies could not possibly be in a flourishing condition. I found that three only were affiliated to the large English benevolent societies and working on a proper actuarial basis, and that of the remainder a very large number were not fulfilling the objects for which they were started, viz., to raise funds for the relief of members and their families in the time of sickness and death.

Many of the societies had been allowed to be registered under such fanciful titles as the following:—

Blades Hill Faithful United Gems.
Chariot of Love.
Luminous Fraternal.
Naval Victory.
United Tribe of Jacob.

63 societies were as a result of enquiry removed from the register. Some of the societies had lost touch altogether with the main objects of Friendly Societies, and existed almost entirely for the purpose of enabling its members to masquerade in naval or military uniforms and to assume grandiloquent titles when meeting together.

The remaining 100 societies, many of which are doing good work, only, however, number altogether 9,115 members. The parish of St. Michael, which includes Bridgetown, leads the way with 25 societies having an aggregate of 2,590 members. St. Philip's parish stands next with 16 societies containing 1,781 members; St. Andrew's parish being last with four societies containing the small total of 132 members.

One of the worst features of the existing societies is the large number of officials drawing pay from their funds. These amount to 580 and together they draw £1,241 17s. 1d. annually. The system of having a lot of small societies all managed by paid officials is so obviously wrong that it is not easy to understand why there should be any opposition to amalgamation. In any case every registered society ought to be worked under similar rules, upon an uniform system as regards account-keeping and with remuneration to those officials whom it is absolutely necessary to pay, based strictly upon the number of members and the annual income of the society. These and other matters relating to Friendly Societies are under consideration in connection with a Friendly Societies Bill which is now before the Legislature.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

The Force consists of two officers, viz., an Inspector-General and an inspector and 353 non-commissioned officers and men. The latter are employed as follows:—

Land Police duties	...	...	...	237
Harbour Police duties	...	...	...	40
Writ Officers	...	...	...	36
Detectives	...	...	...	22
Barrack and Orderly duties	...	...	...	18
Total	...	...	...	353

Of the land police, 43 are mounted and do good work in patrolling the sugar plantations and preventing the crime of incendiarism to which reference will be made later.

By the Parish Constables Act, 1900, all parish constables were brought under the control and supervision of the Inspector-General of Police. There are 1,092 parish constables. They are each supplied with a small book of simple and practical directions, and are from time to time mustered and inspected. Great care is taken to retain only respectable and trustworthy men and the Force appears to be a useful adjunct to the Police.

The cost of the Force in 1901 was:—

	£
Salaries	15,502
Other expenditure	4,169
Total	£19,671

(B.) PRISONS.

There is one prison only in the Colony. It is conducted entirely on the separate system excepting when the numbers exceed 388. There are 266 separate cells for male prisoners and 122 such cells for female prisoners.

The total number of persons committed to prison in 1901 was 4,202, as against 3,937 in 1900. Of these 3,811 were committed for penal imprisonment in 1901, as against 3,463 in 1900. The daily average in the case of male prisoners was 278, and in the case of female prisoners 121.

In November the numbers on the male side of the prison rose to 348, being 82 in excess of the number for which there

are separate cells, and in December they rose on the female side to 186, being an excess of 44. The question of increasing the prison accommodation has been considered and the cost estimated. The matter will be taken up when funds are available.

Nine juveniles under 16 years of age, namely, 2 males and 7 females were committed for penal imprisonment during the year.

Only one death occurred.

All prisoners, not undergoing punishment for offences against prison discipline, are employed upon industrial work, as follows:—

Inside—Males.

Baking bread for prison and public institutions, tailoring, bootmaking, carpentry, tinsmith, blacksmith, painting and masonry work, stone-breaking, water pumping.

Inside—Females.

Beating and preparing cocoanut fibre for mattresses, &c., laundry work, cooking prisoners' food, cultivating arrowroot.

Outside—Males.

- Stone quarrying, stone breaking, reconstructing breakwaters, reconstructing roads, levelling land, repairing walls.

The estimated value of the industrial labour in 1901 was £2,647.

The daily cost of each prisoner was 8½d., inclusive of staff and other charges. The total cost for the year was £5,285 11s. 6d.

The majority of the prisoners could neither read nor write, and the following table shows that in the absence of compulsory education, no advance is being made in carrying education to the lowest strata of the people:—

Males.

Year.	Commitments for penal imprisonment.	Read and write	Read only.	Illiterate.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1896	1,353	44	3	53
1897	1,321	41	7	52
1898	1,475	41	6	53
1899	1,530	44	5	51
1900	1,708	47	4	49
1901	1,815	44	5	51

Females.

Year.	Commitments for penal imprisonment.	Read and write.	Read only.	Illiterate.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1896	1,399	33	11	56
1897	1,450	33	12	55
1898	1,534	33	11	56
1899	1,675	32	9	59
1900	1,755	36	14	50
1901	1,996	36	7	57

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of persons apprehended by the police and brought before the magistrates in 1901 was 16,351, as against 16,451 in 1900.

Of the 16,351 persons apprehended, 11,843 were summarily convicted, 103 were convicted in the Superior Courts, 4,347 were acquitted in the Inferior Courts, and 33 in the Superior Courts, and 25 cases brought before the latter Courts fell through for want of prosecution or because a Bill was thrown out by the Grand Jury.

The following table gives a comparison of statistics during the last ten years:—

Year.	Persons charged with offences punishable summarily or on conviction.	Offences punishable summarily.					Offences punishable on indictment.		Population.	Per-centage of popu-lation con- victed sum- marily.	Per-centage of popu-lation con- victed on in- dict- ment.	Total per-centage of popu-lation con- victed.	
		Convictions.					Con- victions.	Ac- quittals.					
		Other offences against property.				Total.							
		Offences against person.	Prædial Larceny.	Other offences against property.	Other offences.								
1892	12,229	2,562	1,181	922	4,528	9,163	2,894	98	65	183,000	5.02	.05	5.07
1893	12,069	2,711	703	836	4,586	8,836	3,131	76	36	184,000	4.80	.04	4.84
1894	12,192	2,684	931	936	4,548	9,139	2,934	96	35	185,000	4.94	.05	4.99
1895	11,579	2,784	1,772	1,187	3,092	8,835	2,562	139	49	186,000	4.75	.07	4.82
1896	11,504	2,808	1,003	976	3,742	8,529	2,881	99	33	187,000	4.56	.05	4.61
1897	12,217	3,032	950	1,122	3,923	9,027	3,071	76	62	188,000	4.80	.04	4.84
1898	12,497	2,910	1,120	1,175	3,929	9,134	3,201	122	60	189,000	4.82	.06	4.90
1899	14,783	3,397	1,367	1,504	4,678	10,946	3,704	114	37	190,000	5.76	.06	5.82
1900	16,451	3,499	1,461	1,666	5,491	12,117	4,214	84	42	191,000	6.34	.04	6.37
1901	16,351	3,464	1,298	1,684	5,397	11,843	4,347	103	33	195,500	6.05	.05	6.10

Efforts have been made to reduce the number of punishments of juvenile boys by whipping, with regard to which method of punishment which has been so long and so freely enforced in Barbados, one of the magistrates writes as follows:—

“It is a most perplexing matter for a magistrate to know what to do with most of the boys that come before him, and particularly when they are between the ages of 14 and 16. If they are over 14 years of age, they strictly cannot be sent to the Reformatory as the minimum term of detention there is two years. On a great majority of boys a whipping has absolutely no effect whatever, and so little do they mind it that they hardly consider it any punishment at all. In support of this, I may say that whenever a boy is charged with an offence before the magistrate, and is asked his age, he invariably tries to make himself out much younger than he actually is, in order that he may be whipped instead of being fined or imprisoned.”

The number of lads sentenced to be whipped in 1901 was 689, as against 959 in 1900 and 737 in 1899.

There is more crime in the period from September to January inclusive when there is less employment for the labouring population than during any other period of the year. Prædial larceny and petty theft largely increase. The principal offences by females are disorderly conduct, using abusive language, and soon to assaulting and beating. These offences are responsible for as much as 55·18 per cent. of the annual crime of the female population, and are due in a great measure to overcrowding, lack of occupation, and the absence of any restraining influence.

With regard to prædial larceny, the Attorney-General writes as follows:—

“I venture to think that looking to local conditions, namely, the large number of people living in confined areas and surrounded by fields of provisions and sugar cane, the result is not worse than might reasonably be expected.”

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

1901 was the year in which a Census of the population should have been taken, and it is very much to be regretted that in view of the necessity for saving the expense which would have had to be incurred in taking it the century has been opened without a record of the useful statistics and information which a Census affords. A knowledge of such matters as the distribution of the population and its growth or shrinkage especially in the principal centre, Bridgetown, would necessarily have been of great assistance in the work of properly administering the Colony. However, the Government did what it could, and from the information which was available worked out the population as numbering 195,588. In 1891, when the last Census was taken, the total population was returned at 182,306.

It is estimated that after allowing for emigration the population of the Island increases at the average rate of 1,100 per annum.

There were 7,221 births, being 116 less than in 1900, which in its turn was 116 less than the number registered in 1899. Of these, 3,252 were legitimate and 3,969 illegitimate. The following comparative statement shows the regrettable fact that during the last ten years, at any rate, there has been little or no headway made in improving the morality of the people.

Year.	Births.		Estimated population.	Percentage of illegitimate children born.
	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.		
1892	3,167	3,910	183,000	2·13
1893	3,505	4,266	184,000	2·31
1894	3,213	4,095	185,000	2·21
1895	3,526	4,021	187,000	2·15
1896	3,125	3,861	188,500	2·04
1897	3,300	3,897	190,000	2·05
1898	3,226	3,933	191,500	2·05
1899	3,240	3,798	193,000	1·45
1900	3,389	3,948	194,500	2·03
1901	3,252	3,969	196,000	2·02

There is no registration of deaths in Barbados, but in 1901 the burials numbered 5,762. It is unfortunate that a system of notifying and recording the causes of death does not exist because without it any system of sanitary administration must necessarily be incomplete.

The death-rate in each parish is shown by the following table:—

Parish.	Recorded Burials.			Death rate per 1,000.		
	1899.	1900.	1901.	1899.	1900.	1901.
St. Michael ...	1,944	2,006	2,216	34·6	35·7	39·4
St. Philip ...	547	405	604	29·3	21·6	32·3
Christ Church ...	112	463	594	23·8	21·5	27·6
St. George ...	349	367	455	21·7	22·8	28·3
St. John ...	208	189	267	18·9	17·2	24·3
St. Thomas ...	254	265	374	25·1	26·2	37·0
St. James ...	271	280	333	25·7	26·6	31·7
St. Peter ...	296	246	277	27·3	22·7	25·6
St. Lucy ...	255	177	257	26·1	18·1	26·3
St. Andrew ...	122	93	155	14·0	10·6	17·7
St. Joseph ...	210	172	230	23·2	19·1	25·4
Total ...	4,968	4,663	5,762	27·2	25·5	31·6

The following table gives the number of burials of children under one year, compared with two previous years, and shows the percentage of these deaths to the total death. The percentages vary from 53·1 in St. James (closely followed by St. Peter and St. John) to 39·5 in St. Michael. For the whole Island, the percentage is 43·5, which is the highest since 1895 :—

Parish	Infants under one year.			Percentage of Total deaths.		
	1899.	1900.	1901.	1899.	1900.	1901.
St. Michael ...	732	763	876	37·6	38·0	39·5
St. Philip...	248	175	249	45·3	43·2	49·5
Christ Church ...	199	211	263	38·8	40·0	44·2
St. George ...	126	147	190	36·1	40·0	41·7
St. John ...	92	75	136	44·2	39·1	50·9
St. Thomas ...	102	113	157	40·1	42·6	41·9
St. James...	148	164	177	54·6	58·5	53·1
St. Peter ...	120	95	142	40·5	38·6	51·2
St. Lucy ...	145	77	108	47·0	43·5	41·9
St. Andrew ...	71	39	62	41·8	41·9	40·0
St. Joseph ...	75	73	101	35·7	42·4	43·9
Total ...	2,058	1,932	2,511	41·2	41·4	43·5

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the people has on the whole been very satisfactory, and this no doubt is in a great measure due to the excellent water supply which the Government distributes free throughout the Island at an annual cost of £28,000. Mild epidemics of dysentery and influenza prevailed, but excepting in the parish of St. Philip where there were 42 cases during the last half year, the usually prevalent typhoid fever has not been strongly in evidence. In one locality where 10 cases of typhoid occurred the outbreak of the disease was traced to the use of a polluted water supply, and the Government thereupon authorised an expenditure of £356 in extending the Government water mains to the villages concerned.

During the year the parochial authorities were requested to furnish returns to the Government of the number of cases of phthisis existing and which have occurred in each parish during the previous five years. The information supplied was not complete owing to the absence of any system of registration of deaths in the Colony, but it shows that in connection with poor relief 30 cases have been known to the parochial medical officers during the half year in nine out of the eleven parishes, and 368 cases and deaths have been known or recorded during the previous five years in eight parishes. There is more or less unanimity among the Board of Guardians and medical officers as to the

need of a hospital for consumption, and this is certainly one of the wants of the Colony. Nothing can, however, be done in this direction until the financial condition of the Colony has improved.

Dr. G. C. Low, Craggs Scholar, from the London School of Tropical Medicine, visited Barbados for the purpose of enquiring into the prevalence of malarial fevers. He found them non-existent in consequence of the absence of the "anopheles" mosquito. On the other hand, he reported that the prevalence of filarial diseases, propagated by mosquitos of another genus, was very alarming, more than 12·5 per cent. of 600 persons examined, giving evidence of the presence of filarial embryos in the blood. Dr. Low formulated suggestions for the purpose of diminishing this prevalence of filarial diseases, all of which, after approval by the Barbados branch of the British Medical Association, have been made known as far as possible. Dr. Low himself gave three elementary lectures to sanitary inspectors, medical men, and the general public.

As showing the scepticism which prevails with regard to the breeding of mosquitos in stagnant water and their being the means of propagating filarial and other prevalent diseases, it may be mentioned that a suggestion to the Commissioners of Health of the parish of St. Michael, which includes the populous town of Bridgetown, where water stand-pipes are numerous, that they should pass a Bye-law prohibiting the storage of water in open barrels, casks, &c., for long periods of time was met by the rejoinder that they "saw no necessity for taking steps to give effect to the proposals."

In February, 1902, several cases of small-pox occurred in Bridgetown, the disease being traced to a person arriving in the Colony from Canada. The fact that a large number of the population of the Island is averse to vaccination and that no system of public vaccination exists, places the Colony in a more or less defenceless condition.

It is proposed to present a Bill to the Legislature providing for a system of free public vaccination.

(C.) SANITATION.

The actual work of looking after the sanitation of the Colony is in the hands of the Sanitary Commissioners of each of the eleven parishes into which the Island is partitioned. They are, as stated under the head of Public Boards, appointed by the parish vestries. In each parish there are one or more Sanitary Inspectors, whose duty it is to see that the sanitary bye-laws are observed and to report to the Commissioners irregularities which cannot be dealt with on the spot.

General health matters as, for example, the making and carrying out of regulations relating to yellow fever, plague, small-pox,

and so forth are in the hands of the Central Board of Health, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. There are two health officers for the Port of Bridgetown, and a sum of £700 is expended by the Government in connection with the Central Board of Health. The cost of the sanitary work of each parish is defrayed out of the parochial rates and taxes.

(D.) CLIMATE.

The climate is excellent, and during the months of December, January, February, March, and April Barbados is much resorted to by persons who desire to escape an English winter. Throughout these months a cool, refreshing wind blows from the sea across the Island, and as there are several good sea-side hotels and good sea bathing there is probably no more pleasant place to visitors to the West Indies than Barbados.

(1.) *Rainfall.*

The total rainfall for the year taken at the Botanical Station was 79·11 inches, with 175 days of rain as compared with 48·19 inches, and 174 days of rain in 1900. The most rainy months are July, August, September, and October, and it is during these months that there is most likelihood of hurricanes.

(2.) *Temperature.*

The highest temperature was 89° and the lowest 68°. The mean temperature being 81·5°.

(3.) Direction and Force of the Wind.

The direction and force of the wind is given in the following table:—

Direction.	January.			February.			March.			April.			May.			June.			July.			August.			September.			October.			November.			December.			Total.		
	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.			
E.	8	8	8.0	12	9	10.5	13	9	10.5	10	13	11.0	10	12	11.0	8	13	11.0	10	12	11.0	14	12	13.0	8	6	7.0	6	4	5.0	18	15	16.5	11	10	10.5	129	114	121.5
N.E.	9	7	8.0	10	6	8.0	8	4	6.0	6	9	7.5	5	4	6.5	3	3	3.0	9	6	7.5	3	4	3.5	3	2	2.5	5	3	4.0	3	3	3.0	61	56	58.5			
E.S.E.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
S.E.	4	3	3.5	4	6	5.0	8	6	6.0	6	5	5.5	4	5	4.5	1	4	2.5	1	1	1.0	1	1	1.0	1	1	1.0	1	5	3	4.0	5	3	4.0	68	57	62.5		
S.S.E.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
N.W.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
N.E.	1	2	1.5	—	3	1.5	1	—	—	3	1	1.5	2	1	1.0	1	—	—	1	1	1.0	1	1	1.0	1	1	1.0	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
N.W.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
S.	—	1	0.5	1	3	0.5	1	—	—	4	1	0.5	1	1	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
S.E.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
S.S.E.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
S.S.W.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
W.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
W.S.W.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

MEMO.—E., 121.5 days; E.N., 56.5 days; E.N.E., 6.5 days; E.S., 59.5 days; E.S.E., 3 days; N., 26 days; N.E., 15.5 days; N.N.E., 1.5 days; N.W., 1.5 days; S., 11 days; S.E., 42 days; S.S.E., 7.5 days; S.S.W., 2 days; S.W., 8 days; W., 1 day; W.S.W., 1 day.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The Post Office business continues to increase. It is estimated that since the introduction of the universal 1d. postage rate in 1898, the number of letters despatched from Barbados annually has increased by 216,366, the year under review showing an increase of 84,465 over the number despatched in 1900.

Registered articles have increased by 3,155, as follows:—

Year.						No.
1900	...	...	...	...	...	15,671
1901	...	...	...	...	...	18,836

Revised regulations for the sale of postage stamps by stamp vendors have been issued and are working satisfactorily. Sales are now more closely confined to the Post Offices without in any way causing inconvenience to the general public.

The system under which small sums of money can be remitted by post by means of postal orders of fixed value has been properly tried for the first time, the post offices in the parishes of St. Philip, St. John, St. Peter and St. Lucy having been made available for the issue and cashing of orders. Hitherto postal orders were only issued and cashed in Bridgetown and the usefulness of the arrangement was therefore almost entirely lost.

By means of money orders a comparatively large sum is annually sent to persons in Barbados by relatives and others, many of whom have emigrated and found remunerative employment in their new homes. The following figures show the sums so sent during the last two years:—

From West Indian Colonies:—

Year.						Amount.		
						£	s.	d.
1900	...	...	...	...	...	21,222	1	8
1901	...	...	...	...	...	23,702	5	8

From the United States—

Year.						Amount.		
						£	s.	d.
1900	...	...	...	...	...	2,954	3	4
1901	...	...	...	...	...	4,010	17	2

With regard to these remittances, the Colonial Postmaster writes as follows:—

“There was a large increase in the sums remitted from the United States of America, which was no doubt due to the fact that within the last two or three years several persons from this Island have found employment in America and remitted money back to their relatives. This is also true of the emigrants to the British West Indian Colonies. The remittances from British Guiana, Trinidad, St. Lucia, and some other places were, for the most part, made to people of the labouring classes whose relatives abroad frequently send them money.”

There is no inland telegraph service, but there is a large and complete telephone system. All the district police stations are connected by telephone with the central police station in Bridgetown, and this service is under Government control and supervision. There is also a telephone service in the hands of a private company which has 510 subscribers. The majority of these are in Bridgetown where the Central Exchange is located, but there are also several country subscribers. Service is given continuously night and day at a cost to each subscriber of £6 a year.

There are also six Government semaphore stations in the Island. These are used only for signalling the advent of hurricanes or exceptionally stormy weather. The semaphores are no longer worked, and the news which is supplied by the United States Weather Bureau is conveyed by the simple process of hoisting two flags.

Cable communication with the outside world is afforded by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, which receives from the Government of Barbados an annual subsidy of £1,500. There are two routes to the United Kingdom after the arrival of messages at Jamaica, one by the Direct West India Cable Company's line *via* Bermuda, and the other the old but less direct route *via* the United States.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

(R.) REGULAR FORCES.

The garrison at the close of the year consisted of the headquarters and five companies of the 3rd Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers, and two companies of the 2nd Battalion West India Regiment, under the command of a major-general whose district extends over Barbados, the Leeward and Windward Islands, Trinidad, and British Guiana.

The expenditure upon the Imperial troops in Barbados and St. Lucia (Windward Islands) was £138,317, of which sum £51,817 was spent in Barbados.

The total amount paid by the Colony to the officers, non-commissioned officers and men as allowances in compensation for import duty was £2,377.

(B.) MILITIA.

There is no Militia Force in Barbados.

(C.) VOLUNTEERS.

For several years past the question of forming a Volunteer Corps has been under consideration, but the matter had never been brought to a head in consequence of the schemes put forward being more costly than the Colony could afford to pay for. Soon after my arrival in Barbados, I recommended a very modest scheme, namely, the formation of a force of 50 artillery and 50 infantry, the cost being set down at £1,176 for the first year and £930 for each subsequent year. This scheme met with general approval, and before the year closed a Bill giving effect to it had been passed by the Legislature, the money had been voted, the requisite number of men had been enrolled, an orderly room and armoury provided, and all arrangements made for commencing the training of the men on the 2nd January, 1902.

The Force was, I am glad to record, added to by the voluntary enrolment of 50 men as cyclists with the understanding that they were also to be trained as infantry. In view of the excellent roads which exist everywhere throughout the Colony the cyclist company should prove most useful.

The Imperial Government rendered very material assistance by presenting the Force with 50 magazine Lee-Enfield rifles and 50 Martini-Enfield carbines, one 303-inch Maxim machine gun with field carriage, and 4.9-pr. R.M.L. guns with carriages, ammunition waggons and limbers, and 800 rounds of ammunition.

(D.) CONSTABULARY.

The land police, consisting of 237 non-commissioned officers and men are armed, and are as far as possible trained in the use of the rifle and to move in military formation. 43 constables are mounted and, as opportunity offers, will be annually put through a course of mounted infantry drill. It is proposed to similarly train seven additional constables so as to increase this very useful body to 50. The remainder of the men are trained as infantry. The mounted men are armed with the Martini-Enfield carbine, and the remainder with the Martini-Enfield rifle.

In 1901, 292 constables were put through a course of musketry instruction with very fair results. Prizes for the encouragement of good shooting are awarded.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Reference has been made in this report under the head of "General Revenue and Expenditure" to the introduction on the 26th June, 1899, of a tariff designed to secure the admission into Barbados either duty free or at considerably reduced rates of products of the United States of America in return for a reduction of duty upon sugar and molasses exported to that country. It would be as well to show here what would be the effect of the proposed reciprocal Convention, which it may be stated has not yet been signed, to give effect to these arrangements.

The Government of the United States charges a duty of \$1.44½ on every 100 lbs. of 89 degrees test Muscovado sugar. The Convention proposes to reduce this duty by 18 cents. If Barbados were to send an average of 50,000 short tons of 2,000 lbs. each to the United States, the effect of the reduction to the United States would be a loss of revenue of £37,500, and a corresponding gain to the producer here. It is estimated that the reduction of duty upon and, in certain cases, the free admission of articles of commerce from the United States will produce a loss of revenue to Barbados of £30,000 a year which will have to be made up by taxing other articles somewhat more heavily. The poorer classes would probably be the gainers should the Convention come into force, because foodstuffs which are very largely imported from the United States would be considerably cheapened. It has been argued that the whole of the 18 cents reduction of duty upon sugar imported into the United States would not find its way into the pockets of the planters, but this pre-supposes that the planters are not business men and will let the merchants who buy the sugar from them and ship it pay less per hogshead than they ought to pay. The International Sugar Convention signed at Brussels on the 5th March, 1901, will, it is hoped, have the effect of restoring the market price of sugar to a point more nearly approximating to its value before bounties and kartels were introduced, but as regards the West Indian sugar producing islands like Barbados, it cannot alter the hard fact that the freight charges for Muscovado sugar sent to the United States amount to less than 10s. a ton, whereas to London they are 25s. a ton.

The present low price of sugar everywhere prevailing ought not to be put down altogether to over-production due to the application of the direct and indirect bounty system, for there has been another cause at work, namely, the cheapening of the price of production by the application of a scientific process of agriculture and the establishment of proper machinery for the purpose of extracting the maximum quantity of juice. This is a perfectly legitimate means of cheapening and results equally to the benefit of the manufacturer and the consumer. The removal of bounties should restore the equilibrium between

demand and supply, and it may then become possible to maintain a fair average remunerative price.

Under the head of Legislation reference has been made to the Railway Act, No. 11, and to the Cane Fires (Prevention) Act, No. 18, which were passed during the year, and it may be useful to record the reasons which led to the passing of these Acts and the results which have been obtained.

The prevalence of cane fires was one of the first matters to attract my attention. They were made prominent not only by their number but by the extraordinary fact that no concerted steps were being made to ascertain the prevailing cause of them and, in the case of incendiary fires, to bring the incendiaries to justice. The magistrates had power to hold an enquiry in every case, but the power had not been exercised since 1879 because it was feared that persistent enquiry would lead the labouring population to think that they had only to set fire to a cane field to ensure their having an opportunity afforded them of making known their real or supposed grievances, and that more harm than good might be done.

The fires are best classified as follows:—acts of incendiarism, sparks from railway locomotives, smoking in the cane fields, and accidents.

My opinion that active steps should be taken towards stamping out or at any rate minimising cane fires was readily adopted by the Legislature, with the result that the Railway Act, No. 11, dealing with sparks from locomotives and the Cane Fires (Prevention) Act, No. 18, which prohibits smoking in a field of canes and authorises the offer of rewards for information which may lead to the conviction of persons for arson were passed. At the same time a more rigid system of police patrolling was introduced, and the magistrates were ordered to hold an enquiry in every case.

The period from the 1st December to the 31st March is that during which cane fires are most prevalent, and the following figures show the result of the action taken:—

Years.	Classification of Cane Fires.				Totals.
	Incendiary.	Tobacco Smoking.	Railway Locomotives.	Accidents and Unknown.	
1898-1899...	63	—	4	27	94
1899-1900...	112	1	3	58	174
1900-1901...	86	1	13	71	171
1901-1902...	46	—	1	8	55

Note—Under the head of Accidents and unknown are probably included fires really due to incendiarism and smoking.

The result is satisfactory as far as it goes. The labourer has yet to be taught that cane fires necessarily diminish the output of sugar and so affect the fund available for wages and that he is as much interested as any one else in preventing fires. Further, the conspiracy of silence with which the crime of incendiarism is hedged around has to be broken down. The Government often knows by whom a fire has been set but prosecution is prevented by inability to obtain reliable evidence. Only in one case was an incendiary brought to justice. There had been a succession of cane fires at plantation "Sandy Lane" and a cordon of detectives had been placed there. The miscreant was caught red-handed. A special session of the High Court was held and, the evidence being conclusive, the man was convicted and received a sentence of 10 years' penal servitude.

In October it was decided to locate some of the Boer prisoners in Barbados, and arrangements were at once made for their reception. A site known as "Fortescue" was selected for the location of the Boer leaders, and the ordinary prisoners of war were to have been placed on large and extensive pasture lands designated by the military authorities, "Crane Camp." Both sites overlooked the sea on the windward side of the Island, and were in every way suitable. The termination of the Boer war necessarily caused an abandonment of the scheme, but the formation of the two camps gave employment to a large number of persons at a time when work was slack, and when owing to the untoward condition of the sugar industry money was scarce. Regrets have not unnaturally been expressed at the loss of trade consequent upon the non-arrival of the Boers, but they have been more than counterbalanced by the general feeling of pleasure at the termination of the war and at the manner in which it was terminated.

In consequence of a very heavy and continuous rainfall on the 28th, 29th and 30th September, a very serious land movement manifested itself on the 1st October in the north-eastern district of the Island at Boscobel. The whole area between the range of hills and the sea commenced to slide forward towards the sea, and, in the movement, to break up the surface, causing deep fissures and destroying the roads and buildings. Some 85 houses were broken down and about 500 persons rendered homeless. A public meeting was held in Bridgetown at which a relief fund was started, and a sum sufficient to meet all reasonable claims was very generously subscribed.

The year witnessed many changes in the Government service.

Mr. Ralph Williams, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, was appointed Resident Commissioner of British Bechuanaland, and left Barbados on the 13th April, being succeeded later by Mr. F. J. Newton, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of British Honduras.

Dr. F. B. Archer who had for a long period held the appointments of Visiting Surgeon of the General Hospital, Assistant

Health Officer, and Surveyor of Butchers' Meat, died on the 20th September, 1901

Dr. A. Field who had held the post of Medical Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum since the 1st of January, 1879, died on the 30th December.

Dr. Thomas Bowen resigned his appointments of Health Officer, Surgeon of Glendairy Prison, and Medical to Police and Fire Brigade, District "A," from the 12th of September.

The Honourable John Kellman who had held a seat in the Legislative Council for a period of 17 years, resigned on account of ill-health, and was succeeded by Mr. J. Gardiner Austin, a Member of the House of Assembly. Mr. Kellman died on the 9th September.

The roads of the Colony are, as a general rule, excellent, and are well looked after by the Highway Commissioners. In the low-lying lands on the windward side of the Island there has been considerable difficulty in maintaining the roads in order in consequence of land movements due to the excessive rainfall. The road was carried away, and bridges were destroyed in many places. It became necessary under the circumstances for the Government to make a special grant of money to supplement the parochial revenues, namely, £200 to the parish of St. Joseph, and £150 to the parish of St. Andrew.

The railway which runs from Bridgetown to St. Andrew, a distance of 28 miles, is in the hands of a private company. It runs two trains daily in both directions, and although at present not financially successful should in the future, if the sugar industry revives, prove to be so.

During the year the renewal of the bridge across the carenage, now known as the Victoria Bridge, was completed, and the bridge opened for traffic on 20th January, 1902. Considerable progress has also been made in the renewal in some places and strengthening of the two sides of carenage known locally as the wharf walls.

The rate of wages for agricultural work varies from 10*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per day for men, 6*d.* to 10*d.* for women and from 3*d.* to 6*d.* per day for children. Although the rate of wages may appear low when viewed from the standpoint of the dwellers in temperate climes who have to supply themselves with warm clothing and extra fuel and food in the winter months, it must be remembered that the Barbados labourer only needs light cotton clothing when at his daily avocation, and a light wooden building for his dwelling.

It may, therefore, be said that the rate of wages, although small, are not out of proportion to the cost of living, which is about five cents per day, provided the labourer obtains continuous employment. This, however, is at present far from the case, as it is only during the reaping of the sugar crop that continuous

work is obtainable. From August to the end of December many of the agricultural labourers suffer greatly from want owing to the inability of the sugar estates to provide continuous occupation consequent upon the low price of sugar.

There is no opening for white labour in Barbados.

The social condition of the people of Barbados cannot be regarded as satisfactory. To a superficial observer it would not appear to be distressful, but there is nevertheless considerable distress underlying general appearances. The necessity for cur-tailing expenses in every direction in the production of sugar has increased the already existing penury among the labouring classes. The following extracts from reports made to the parochial authorities will depict the state of things better than any words of mine:—

Extract from the quarterly report, July to September, of the Medical Officer for the parish of St. Thomas:—

“Poverty is steadily increasing throughout the Island, and unless some system of emigration under Government control be established to induce our people to cultivate the fertile islands in our immediate neighbourhood, the keeping alive of such a large and numerous population as is represented by our labouring classes will be a problem far beyond the power of our parochial system of poor relief, and indeed will tax to the utmost the resources of any Government. Already I can clearly see that the present system of poor relief is inadequate, and there is a vast amount of poverty verging on starvation which is being patiently borne by thousands of our labouring classes.”

Extract from the minute book of the Board of Guardians of the parish of St. Thomas, October, 1901:—

“The local inspector begged to call the attention of the Board to the extreme poverty of the labourers in the parish, and especially to the children; that he considered they were most of them suffering from want of proper and sufficient food, and that the strength of the labourer was greatly reduced, and for the want of food he could not now perform a day’s work as heretofore, and that the children were really dying for want of proper food and care, and suggested that some means be adopted to give them something to eat. The matter was discussed by the Board, who were of opinion that this state of things was correct and that they would consider the matter.”

Extract from the quarterly report, October to December, of the Medical Officer for the parish of St. Lucy:—

“One cannot help observing the very low state of the general health of the majority of the labouring class. Their power of resistance to any disease of an epidemic form would be very slight, and there is no doubt that want of proper and sufficient nourishment is the cause of their present state of health.”

I cannot do better than close this report with a reference to emigration, which is regarded by most people as the panacea for

all troubles arising from over-population or a decreasing wages fund. Unfortunately, the Barbadian is personally averse to leaving his country, and few of the neighbouring colonies are willing to receive him because of his general independence of character which chafes against the restraints necessarily imposed upon immigrants. An opportunity occurred during the year of affording the unemployed and semi-destitute an opportunity of emigrating in large numbers to Ecuador, where a railway is under construction by a firm of English contractors. The contractors sent an agent to Barbados to collect labourers, but only a comparatively few persons were indentured, and although every assistance was given to the agent his mission proved a failure.

Although the pressure of population forces the Barbadian native to be industrious and hard-working while living in Barbados, it is open to doubt whether these desirable qualities remain when he is relieved from the stern necessity of continuous daily toil.

It is well known that the Barbadian regards his native home with much pride and affection, and that when he makes a little money elsewhere his thoughts are towards the land of his birth, and his wish is to get back to it. These facts cannot be disregarded in connection with any scheme of emigration. They lead one to think that the establishment of the indenture system would on the whole prove more agreeable and therefore more successful than any scheme which means permanent expatriation. But on the other hand, the Barbadian native, like every negro, is averse to being bound by contracts. They carry his mind back to the condition of the people before the days of emancipation, and he sees only in contracts a form subtly devised by the white man for replacing the yoke of slavery round his neck. Emigration under contract has more than once been tried with the Barbadian, and has invariably failed. Nevertheless, for short periods of two years, accompanied with special terms, contracts might succeed.

The question of emigrating Barbadians has been fully threshed out. Many schemes have been propounded but in all of them the question how to overcome the intense aversion of the Barbadian to leave Barbados excepting for short intervals remains unsolved. And now there is the added difficulty of lack of funds to carry out any system of emigration.

I have, &c.,

F. M. HODGSON.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 343.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1900-1901.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 313.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1901.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 82, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1901.

[Cd. 788-13.] *Price 2½d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
322	Bermuda	1900
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados	"
327	Bahamas... ..	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius	"
336	British New Guinea	1899-1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Report on Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 343.

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901
—

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 313.)

HIGH COMMISSIONER LORD MILNER to
MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

High Commissioner's Office,
Johannesburg,

October 11th, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose for your information a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner, on the subject of Basutoland affairs during the year ended 30th June, 1901.

I have, &c.,

MILNER,
High Commissioner.

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901**

**FROM THE ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER,
MASERU, TO HIGH COMMISSIONER,
JOHANNESBURG.**

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Maseru, Basutoland,
September, 1901.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to Your Lordship my Report upon Basutoland affairs during the year ended 30th June, 1901, together with the Annual Reports of the Acting Government Secretary, the Assistant Commissioners, and the Medical Officers.

POLITICAL.

The news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria came as a particular shock to the Basuto, by whom for many years the name and personality of our late sovereign had been associated with every idea of might, justice, and mercy. The ceremony of proclaiming the accession of His Majesty the King took place at Maseru on the 31st January, 1901. The gathering was attended by every chief of importance in Basutoland, and on behalf of the nation the Paramount Chief Lerothodi begged that an address might be forwarded, expressing the sympathy of himself and his people with the royal family, and praying respectfully for a continuance of the favour and protection of the throne of England. Not unnaturally there was, underlying all expressions of sympathy and loyalty, a certain feeling of apprehension that a change of rulers might mean a change of policy towards the Basuto and other natives; but a gracious message from the King assuring the chiefs and people of His Majesty's benevolent interest in their welfare has since dispelled these fears.

The history of Basutoland for the year under report has been uneventful so far as the internal condition of the country has been affected. The unfortunate intertribal quarrels which not infrequently disturb the peace have been few in number, and not of great importance in themselves nor serious in their results. Twice during the year in Leribe District the jealousies existing between the chiefs have culminated in brawls in which firearms have been used and life has been lost. The details of the disturbances are not of general interest, and it is sufficient to place upon record the fact that the senior chiefs deserve credit for having restrained and kept within limits the turbulence of the younger men and their followers, and that the ringleaders in each case were tried and suitably punished.

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.

It says much for the peaceful character of the Basuto that the numerous outstanding differences and disputes as to rights over land existing in almost every section of the country should, at such a period of general unsettlement, have led to no more serious resort to arms than the incidents which I have referred to. A few of such cases have been peacefully and properly adjusted in our courts, but many remain to be dealt with at a suitable time. The chiefs, without exception, are proud and jealous of their rights, any real or fancied invasion of which arouses in them violent passions strikingly at variance with their usual mild demeanour. It is impossible not to recognize the good sense and self-control exhibited by many of them.

Perhaps the most important matter which will have to be dealt with in the future is the case of the Chief Joel Molapo, against whom some serious charges will have to be brought in due time. Joel has during the year made approaches in the shape of letters and messages asking for consideration and clemency, and has also sent in to his magistrate a sum of money which he has collected as hut tax among his people. There is no doubt that he has latterly been able to see that he committed a grave political error in allowing himself to be so deeply compromised as the tool of Boer intriguers in the early part of the campaign. But I regret to say that his conduct continues to be very questionable; it would be unfair to Joel to prejudge his case or to assume too hastily that all charges made against him were well founded. But the portion of the Orange River Colony bordering upon his ward is rugged and difficult of access to troops, and in these comparatively secure retreats bands of armed Boers have been lurking during the greater part of the year. Their presence and their boasts that they were successfully defying the British troops may have counteracted the salutary effect which the surrender of Prinsloo's forces undoubtedly had in July, 1900. Unpleasant rumours are still current to the effect that Joel has and does still give the Boers in arms both sympathy and assistance.

The affairs of the Moputhi Chief Mocheko also remain to be dealt with, and the location of this troublesome person will have to be defined. Mocheko claims land rights and chieftanship to a preposterous and inadmissible extent, and in view of his personal character it will be necessary to strictly limit his sphere of influence.

The protracted hostilities in South Africa no longer occasion excitement in the minds of the Basuto. In spite of rumours which have been circulated by interested persons to the effect that the English were getting "tired," the Basuto have long been able to see that the Boers have been hopelessly beaten, and although the bands in the field may be able for a time to prolong an annoying guerilla warfare, the issue of the struggle has since the occupation of Bloemfontein been clearly foreseen by the natives. The evacuation by our troops of certain border towns and some

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.**

minor disasters that have befallen the British forces have been embarrassing incidents, somewhat trying to the faith of our best friends, and affording satisfaction to the minds of a school of native politicians, who in the difficulties of the Government see the opportunities of the governed.

In September, 1900, when for a few days the small garrison of Ladybrand was surrounded by Boer commandoes, Lerothodi promptly responded to a call made upon him and came at short notice to Maseru with a considerable body of Basuto as a demonstration in support of the defence.

The Basuto have watched the latter stages of the war in a quiet, undemonstrated, but very observant manner, and, convinced as they now are of the over-whelming power of Great Britain, are regarding the struggle being fought out as a test of our endurance and determination. The moral effect of the great campaign which has been carried on under their eyes will be complete only when they see the last Boer commando driven from the field. The natives have shrewdly extracted every possible advantage from the situation by carrying on a brisk trade in ponies, cattle, and produce at war prices. Industrious as they are and ever ready to work for good wages, they have been enrolled in thousands for employment in the non-combatant branches of the army. It has been a source of satisfaction that during a period of closure of the usual labour centres the people have been able to preserve their habits of industry and contribute to the prosperity of the country in this way. And the employment of the natives with the army must have had an educative effect. The spectacle of the enormous numbers of troops employed cannot fail to have impressed a sense of the power of the British Government upon the minds of these labourers who have returned to their villages with their stories from the front. The discipline they have been under will also, it is to be hoped, have its good effect upon them.

Correct as has been the conduct of the bulk of the people and chiefs, the temptation of being able to loot deserted border farms has proved too great for many individuals, and in one instance a whole clan (the Bataung) yielded to local excitement and crossed the border to plunder. Such acts have been dealt with by the prompt punishment of every person who has been concerned, and restoration of looted property has been enforced.

The Paramount Chief has shown a renewed interest in the scheme for the establishment of a Native Council for Basutoland. He has the support in the matter of most of the leading chiefs and councillors, and it may be possible during the coming year to shape definitely the proposals for the constitution and functions of a representative assembly for the discussion of public affairs.

The military occupation of the Orange River Colony has had the result of rendering it almost impossible for the Basuto to

obtain liquor on that border. The total arrests made by the police for liquor smuggling amounted to only 14, and these were all in the districts of Qachas Nek, Quthing, and Mohale's Hoek, of which the borders are conterminous with the Cape Colony. There is no doubt that there has been less brandy drinking in Basutoland since the outbreak of the war than at any previous time. The determined drinkers have had to send either to East Griqualand or to the northern border of the Cape Colony to obtain spirits, and the length of the journey and the danger of interception by police patrols have deterred all but the most incorrigible smugglers. It is sincerely to be hoped, in the interests of the Basuto, that the liquor trade with natives may never be permitted to revive in the Orange River Colony, and that the facilities for obtaining drink in the Cape Colonial territories may also be curtailed.

**BASUTO
LAND
1900-1901.**

FINANCIAL.

The punctuality and completeness with which the hut tax has been paid is typical of the wise and dutiful conduct of the chiefs and people during an unsettled period. The balance to credit of the administration has been largely increased, as it has been impossible during the troublous times of the past two years to develop any schemes for the benefit of the country or to undertake some desirable public works. The Customs earnings have exceeded expectations, and probably would have been still higher but for the interruption of traffic by military operations, rinderpest, &c.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Statistical returns are included in the Government Secretary's report. A rather striking feature of these returns is the increase in the value of exports; this is due partly to the fact that it has been possible to send to Bloemfontein and Aliwal a portion of the accumulated stock of grain in the country, but in a greater measure to the export of ponies for military purposes. Of these, more than 15,000 have been sent out, making a total of 20,000 horses drawn from Basutoland for the use of the army. The value of this horse export trade is assessed at £262,991, but this does not represent a cash trade of that amount, as most of the horses were bartered for cattle. The labour returns under the circumstances are satisfactory, and the conduct and utility of the Basuto labourers is as a rule favourably reported upon by the officers in charge of military departments.

Rinderpest made its appearance near Maseru early in May, having been introduced from the Orange River Colony, and has since slowly but surely spread, until most districts of Basutoland are now more or less affected by it. By vigorous measures of quarantine and bile-inoculation it has been possible to limit the mortality amongst the cattle. A remarkable change has been

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.**

observable in the attitude of the natives with regard to inoculation of their cattle since the last outbreak of this disease in 1897, when it was difficult, and almost dangerous, to press them to adopt the treatment. During the present outbreak (the advantages of inoculation being recognised) the difficulty has been to restrain the owners of cattle from unauthorised and uncontrolled inoculation; an alteration of native opinion in this simple matter which is illustrative of the process under which superstitious and ignorant prejudice is losing its hold upon the people.

EDUCATION.

The educational work of the missions has been steadily carried on, and returns show an increase in the number of both schools and scholars in the country. Simple religious and moral teaching and elementary education appear best adapted to the needs of a native peasant; but it seems impossible to withhold some higher education from a certain percentage of scholars. It is almost pathetic to observe the eagerness with which some native parents desire higher education for their children. The subsequent careers of these young people do not always appear to be worthy of the sacrifices their parents have made on their behalf. The mission societies have this year received an increased grant towards education.

In connection with the subject of education, it has to be recorded that the African Methodist Episcopal Church has for two years past been sending a few ministers and catechists into Basutoland. No serious work has yet been attempted by this body, nor have they attracted many of the adherents of the existing mission churches; but the possible political significance of the movement should not be overlooked. It is under the influence of American Negro Methodists, and aims at the establishment in South Africa of a native church independent of the control of European missionaries.

HOSPITALS.

The Medical Officers' reports present a summary of the work done. Military hospitals have been organised and managed by our medical officers at Maseru, Mafeteng, and Leribe, and in these have been received and treated many patients sent in from the British columns. The Medical Officers have dealt with the extraordinary demands upon their energy and resources with praiseworthy zeal.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The work of the Native Mounted Police has been well done. Statistics are furnished in the Government Secretary's report. There have been an unusual number of cases of theft due to

the temptation—irresistible to some of the Basuto—afforded by the removal of owners of border farms and the unprotected state of the stock.

BASUTOLAND,
1900-1901

VITAL STATISTICS.

In compliance with instructions from the High Commissioner, an estimate of the population was carefully prepared, and the figures, as compared with the census of 1891, are given in the Secretary's report. It is worthy of notice that the European refugees now are three times as numerous as the usual white residents in the country. These refugees are mostly Boer farmers and their families from the border districts.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Basutoland has enjoyed the advantages of peace though surrounded by territories suffering from the ravages of war. It has been possible under these circumstances to preserve internal order, to collect the revenue, and to administer justice. The missions have been able to carry on their useful labours for the enlightenment of the people, and trade and agriculture have been fairly prosperous.

That the administration has been to the above extent successful is largely due to the efforts of the able and experienced staff of officers, whose services I beg to bring to Your Excellency's notice.

So much in Basutoland depends on the disposition and conduct of the chiefs, who exercise great power of control over the people, that in reviewing a year of government it is just to report that the Paramount Chief Lerothodi and other chiefs (among whom Jonathan Molapo is conspicuous) have as a rule behaved with good sense and self-control, and have intelligently acquiesced in measures which the state of the country has rendered necessary.

I have, &c.,

H. C. SLOLEY,

Acting Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency the High Commissioner,
South Africa.

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901**

ANNUAL REPORT.

ACTING GOVERNMENT SECRETARY, 1900-1901.

In transmitting the Annual Reports upon the various districts in Basutoland for the year ended 30th June, 1901, I have the honour to submit the following summary of statistical information contained therein :—

FINANCIAL.

Revenue for the year is as follows :—

			£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	...	...	53,341	10	0
Post Office	...	...	2,359	19	1
Licences	...	...	4,265	14	3
Fees	...	...	100	10	4
Miscellaneous receipts...	...	...	1,323	5	5
			61,390	19	1
Contribution from Cape Govern- ment	...	...	13,500	0	0
Total	...	...	£74,890	19	1

Expenditure for the same period was £55,485 14s. 1d. For the purposes of comparison, Revenue and Expenditure for the past three years is given :—

Year ended	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
30th June, 1899	46,847 16 8	46,417 12 9
30th June, 1900	69,769 16 4	59,492 7 6
30th June, 1901	74,890 19 1	55,485 14 5

Of the above Revenue, arrears of tax are represented by a sum of £4,795. Payments were made upon a total of 51,003 huts. Expenditure includes £3,567 incurred upon special police for defensive purposes.

TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

Dutiable goods were imported into Basutoland from :—

	£	s.	d.
Cape Colony	114,959	0	0
Orange River Colony ...	27,749	0	0
Natal	2,766	0	0
Total ...	£145,474	0	0

1900-1901.

The warlike operations which are still being carried on along our border tend to greatly hinder the importation of merchandize.

The harvest has generally been good ; but there are poor prospects of getting the grain, together with last year's stocks, to market.

The exports of produce compare as under with the returns of the preceding year :—

Articles.	Year ended 30th June, 1900.		Year ended 30th June, 1901.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Muids.	£ s. d.	Muids.	£ s. d.
Wheat	7,404	4,909 13 0	24,907	14,845 9 0
Mealies	20,685	11,450 7 0	49,916	29,104 14 0
Kaffir corn	1,220	705 6 0	3,949	2,502 6 0
Meal	159	293 8 0	702	867 2 0
Mealie meal	—	—	385	308 1 0
	Lbs.		Lbs.	
Wool	1,640,813	36,081 10 8	1,551,657	25,570 17 0
Mohair	194,248	9,010 8 9	196,355	7,655 3 0
Horses (No.)	4,419	64,031 18 0	15,684	262,991 15 9
Cattle (No.)	522	6,997 10 0	1,312	16,842 0 0
Miscellaneous	—	384 17 0	—	959 7 10
Total ...	—	133,864 18 5	—	361,646 15 7

General traders' licences numbering 126 and 83 hawkers' licences have been issued.

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.**

There has been almost a complete cessation of labourers to the mining centres. On the other hand, a large number of Basuto have been employed by the various departments of the army. The following shows the number of men who obtained passes to leave the territory :—

Object of Journey.	Number of Individuals.
To seek employment at Kimberley, Jagersfontein, and Cape coal mines	585
Farm and domestic labour	7,995
Employed by army	11,477
Other purposes	23,815
Total	43,874

EDUCATION.

The number of Basuto lads either wholly or partly maintained by the Basutoland Government at training institutions in the Cape Colony is 20.

There are in Basutoland 188 schools.

Number of scholars on books ... 11,356

Mean average attendance 7,841.76

Expenditure under the vote "Education" amounted to £4,748 15s. 4d.

POLICE AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The Police Force consists of :—

European officers	...	...	12
European constables	...	...	7
Native officers	...	...	5
Native sergeants	...	...	7
Native corporals	...	...	8
Native privates	...	...	229
Native constables	...	...	3

This force has during the year performed the following patrols :—

Number of patrols	...	...	3,390
Estimated distance travelled (miles)	...	...	101,093
Arrests under Liquor Law	...	...	14
" " Pass Law	...	...	1,360
Other offences	...	...	320

484 prisoners have been received into gaol; 381 were convicted, while 164 remained in gaol on the 30th June, 1901.

**BASUTO
LAND,
1900-1901**

No floggings have been inflicted.

The following criminal charges have been dealt with :—

Culpable homicide	...	...	...	11
Theft	...	...	...	240
Breaches of Pass and Border Regulations	...	...	...	140
Breaches of Trading Regulations	...	...	...	25
Resisting police	...	...	...	17
Assault	...	...	...	14
Other crimes	...	...	...	52
Total	...	...	...	499

The large increase in charges of theft is owing to the wholesale stealing of stock by Basuto in the Orange River Colony immediately the British troops had swept the Boer commandoes from our border.

Return of Lost Stock Reported.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.
Horses ...	122	61	51	54	65
Cattle ...	326	255	71	246	80
Sheep and goats	1,306	779	310	668	634

POPULATION.

	European.			Indian and other Coloured.			Native.			Total.
	M.	F.	Tot.	M.	F.	Tot.	M.	F.	Total.	
Census, 1891 ..	343	235	578	103	77	180	105,102	112,042	218,144	218,902
Estimated, 1901	372	275	647	—	—	206	125,819	136,742	262,561	263,414

Besides the ordinary resident population, there are as refugees in this territory from the Orange River Colony: Europeans 1,845, and natives 5,660. The latter number appears, however, to be very much under estimated.

**BASUTO
LAND,
1900-1901,**

POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH.

The following statistics regarding the work of the Basutoland offices have been courteously supplied by the Postmaster-General, Cape Town :—

	No.	Postage Value.
Letters posted in Basutoland ...	191,962	£ s. d. 885 5 9
Postcards ...	2,783	7 17 5
Newspapers ...	2,800	5 16 8
Book and sample packets ...	2,704	22 10 8
Parcels ...	1,001	50 1 0
Total ...	201,250	971 11 6

Official correspondence posted :—

	No.	Postage Value.
Letters ...	11,856	£ s. d. 98 16 0
Books ...	10,284	10 14 3
Total ...	22,140	109 10 3

Correspondence received for delivery :—

Letters ...	169,260
Postcards ...	2,470
Newspapers ...	59,163
Book and sample packets ...	11,414
Parcels ...	8,333
Official letters and books ...	15,899
Total ...	266,539

Money orders issued, 5,088 ; value, £21,661 5s. 10d. \

Money orders paid, 822 ; value, £3,747 14s. 1d.

A total of 242 deposits, aggregating £3,708 16s. 11d., were made in the Savings Bank, while the withdrawals numbered 53, representing a sum of £1,956 4s. 11d. BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.

The following reports are enclosed :—

The Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.
 The Assistant Commissioner, Berea.
 The Assistant Commissioner, Maseru.
 The Assistant Commissioner, Mafeteng.
 The Assistant Commissioner, Mohale's Hoek.
 The Assistant Commissioner, Quthing.
 The Assistant Commissioner, Qachas Nek.
 The Principal Medical Officer.
 The Medical Officer, Leribe.
 The Medical Officer, Mafeteng.
 The Medical Officer, Mohale's Hoek.
 The Medical Officer, Quthing.

F. ENRAGHT-MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1900-1901.

Few events worth recording in this report have occurred in this district during the past year.

In September a fight occurred between Khetisa's and Ramapepe's people, in which Jonathan's son Tau joined on the side of the latter. Several men were killed and wounded, and some damage was done to property. The matter was settled by Sir Godfrey Lagden, and the chief offenders punished by fine and imprisonment.

The attitude of the various chiefs towards Government has remained much the same during the year. Joel, too, has up to quite recently maintained his attitude of disloyalty, wavering now and then as the fortunes of the Boers waxed and waned. At the moment of writing he shows a desire to return to his duty.

Hlasoa, whom Joel drove away in November, 1899, is still, with his following, a fugitive from his home and lands, and without means of support, except such small doles as are provided for old

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.**

men, women, and children, and such help as Jonathan cares to afford.

In September the neighbouring districts of the Orange River Colony, in which British authority had been established, and which were rapidly settling down, were suddenly abandoned and large numbers of refugees, British, Dutch, and native, flocked into Basutoland, including two ex-commandants, two ex-field cornets, and one ex-general. They have, as a whole, behaved well, and though their presence and necessary supervision entails much extra labour and some embarrassment and anxiety, it is satisfactory to think that the protection afforded has been the means of keeping a large number of able-bodied men and horses from the enemy's commandoes.

On the evacuation of Ficksburg on September 8th some 50 prisoners of war and a large number of stores were handed over to me by General Campbell for custody; accommodation was also found for a field hospital.

The prisoners and stores were kept until the re-occupation of Ficksburg, in February. The field hospital is still here in charge of our medical officer.

I append the following returns, which include the figures furnished by the officer in charge at Butha Buthe :—

REVENUE.

					£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	...	...	...	...	11,651	0	0
Licences	...	...	...	...	494	0	0
Fines	...	...	...	...	328	12	6
Fees	...	...	...	...	13	15	10
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	59	2	0
Total					£12,546 10 4		

Tax was paid on 11,335 huts. Arrear tax collected, £1,635.

LICENCES.

The following licences were issued :—

General traders	...	...	...	...	28
Paid hawkers	...	...	...	...	3
Free hawkers	...	...	...	...	—

PASSES.

The following passes were issued :—

For the coal mines, Cape Colony ...	...	37
To Orange River Colony for Government labour.	1,480	
For other purposes ...	...	645

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.

RETURN OF PATROLS.

Number of patrols ...	...	1,963
Number of men engaged ...	...	2,980
Distance covered ...	...	37,184 miles.

ARRESTS.

Liquor Laws ...	...	—
Pass Law ...	...	1,251
Arrests for other offences ...	...	82

CASES TRIED.

The following cases were tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court during the year :—

Theft ...	...	91
Assault ...	...	9
Resisting police...	...	5
Culpable homicide ...	...	3
Manslaughter ...	...	2
Housebreaking ...	...	1
Other offences in connection with border regulations.	45	
Total ...	...	157

There were six civil actions.

RETURN OF LOST STOCK.

Description.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	45	3	42	6
Cattle ...	154	—	146	8
Sheep and goats ...	564	76	462	178

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.**

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	...	202
" " convicted and sentenced		184
" " discharged unconvicted		16
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June, 1901		58

No floggings were inflicted.

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Mealies	...	...	10s. per bag.
Wheat...	...	...	15s. "
Kaffir corn	...	...	10s. "
Oat hay	...	...	40s. per 100 bundles.
Horses...	...	...	£15 to £25 (almost unobtainable).
Cattle ...	...	...	£7 to £12.
Sheep ...	...	...	10s. to 20s.
Goats ...	...	...	10s. to 20s.
Wool ...	...	...	2d. per lb.
Mohair	...	...	4d. "

POLICE.

The police at my three stations number :—

Sub-inspectors	...	...	...	...	2
Native officer	...	...	...	...	1
European constable	...	...	...	...	1
Native sergeants	...	...	...	...	2
Native corporals	...	...	...	...	2
Native privates	...	...	...	...	54

In addition to the above I have

Special constable	...	...	...	...	1
Special police	...	...	...	...	17

I attach reports of the officer in charge at Butha Buthe and Medical Officer, Leribe.

J. C. MACGREGOR,

Assistant Commissioner.

Leribe]

30th June, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT—BUTHA BUTHE DISTRICT,
1900–1901.

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900–1901.

Compared with the previous year, that which has just passed has been an uneventful one. On July 30th, 1900, a large Boer force surrendered to General Hunter on the borders of the district, and from that day there was a marked change in Joel's attitude, and all anxiety as to what line he might take was removed.

Selomo's ward has been the cause of trouble more than once. First, his people had a fight more or less among themselves, in which a man was killed. Then, on March 10th, Selomo's people and Tumo's had a fight, in which also a man was killed. This was a more serious affair and might easily have led to grave results.

There has been the usual quarrelling in Letsika's ward about lands, reeds, &c., but there has not been any serious disturbance. The chief feature in the year's history of that ward is the amount of stealing that has been going on.

The great majority of the criminal cases I have had to try during the year have been stock thefts from the Orange River Colony by Letsika's people. Messengers have lately been up in the Makhoakhwa District inquiring into the whole matter of cattle and stock stealing. Their work forms the subject of a separate report, already submitted.

Returns embodied in Leribe Annual Report.

W. BOXWELL,
Officer in Charge.

Butha Buthe,
30th June, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT—BEREA DISTRICT, 1900–1901.

This year, like last year, has been quite out of the ordinary.

The war going on just across the border has overshadowed everything, and local matters and disputes have fallen into a secondary position in which little interest was taken in them except by the parties actually concerned.

The main element of trouble in the district has been Phatso Mota, who being by nature quarrelsome has taken advantage of Masupha's death to raise again all the old vexed boundary questions between himself and Mamathe.

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901**

This man by disputing each point and disregarding all decisions against him kept himself for some time fairly before the public ; but when in February last he appealed to the Resident Commissioner's Court against all district decisions in his case, and lost practically every point, he made up his mind to bow to the inevitable, and since then little has been heard of him.

His brother Mphumo who had always been a strong partisan of Mamathe was removed to another ward, and up to the present it is satisfactory to note that no further disturbance has occurred.

Mamathe has maintained efficiently the border guards along the Caledon River, which have done good work.

I regret that I am unable to say as much for Peete, who from ill-health and general laxity has allowed his ward to become a hotbed of theft.

The gang of thieves, which included his son Nkutu, has, however, been completely broken up, nearly all of them having been caught and fined or imprisoned.

Peete's health, which was wretched till a month or two ago, has suddenly taken a turn for the better, and I trust that with returning strength he will get rid of his bad councillors who have been making a puppet of a naturally able man.

In September last the town of Ladybrand was attacked by the Boers in large numbers. The Boers had three or four guns, whilst our garrison had nothing but their rifles to depend on.

The siege, which was followed from this side of the border with great interest by the Basuto, lasted from Sunday morning to Tuesday night, when the Boers retired.

The Resident Commissioner with Paramount Chief Lerothodi and about one thousand armed men were present on Tuesday.

I am glad to say that the hut tax in Berea this year has been an unqualified success.

Maama Letsie was sent to represent the Paramount Chief, and with the co-operation of all the local chiefs the bulk of the tax was gathered in the first month, while the total tax far exceeded that of any other year.

Small-pox, which was severe in the early part of the year, has died out completely. I fear the death roll was heavy, especially among the young children.

The crops have not been very good this year. They were thrown back by a dry spring, and only saved by steady rains in latter half of the year.

The frost which came early consequently did a good deal of damage.

Stock is rather thin, but not so thin as one would expect in view of the bad grazing everywhere and the prevalence of so much sickness as there is.

There are some 180 white refugees and upwards of 2,000 natives, with their stock, in Berea District. They are quiet and law abiding, and give little or no trouble.

**BASUTO
LAND,
1900-1901**

Money is very plentiful among the Basuto, their stock realizing splendid prices to Remount Departments and Commissariat.

A large number of natives have gone out to work at the front, but as these have almost entirely gone through the Government Secretary, Maseru, no return can be given herewith. Casualties to these men have been rare, and the cash they have brought back has added greatly to the present prosperity of the district.

The roads are bad and the contractor has been reported for unsatisfactory work.

I attach the usual annual returns for the past year :—

REVENUE.				£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	...	...	...	6,011	10	0
Licences...	...	...	...	378	15	0
Fees of court or office	...	...	...	3	19	0
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	0	5	0
Total	...	...	...	£6,394	9	0

Arrear hut tax amounted to £714 10s. Tax was paid on 5,651 huts.

STRENGTH OF POLICE.

- 1 Sub-inspector.
- 1 Constable.
- 1 Sergeant.
- 1 Corporal.
- 1 Lance-corporal.
- 24 Privates.
- 3 Special police.

The above, with the exception of the specials, are all well mounted, armed, and equipped.

RETURN OF PATROLS.

Number of men employed	...	...	1,022
„ patrols	...	...	511
„ miles	...	...	13,184
„ arrests for liquor	...	...	—
„ „ Pass Law	...	...	13
„ „ other offences	...	...	—

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.**

CRIMINAL CASES HEARD DURING THE YEAR.

Theft	...	...	...	...	42
Pass Law	...	...	...	...	16
Liquor Law...	...	...	...	...	—
Public violence	...	...	...	...	2
Other offences	...	...	...	...	4
Culpable homicide	...	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	...	...	66

There were no floggings during the year, and there were no civil cases heard in the court.

No stock was reported lost at this office.

There have been throughout the year the following received and discharged from gaol ;—

Received into gaol	...	...	...	61
Convicted	...	...	...	42
Discharged unconvicted	...	...	...	8
In gaol at present...	...	...	...	26

The following may be taken as current prices ruling in the district :—

Horses	...	...	£13 to £20
Oxen	...	...	£10 to £12
Cows	...	...	£7 to £9
Sheep	...	...	15s. to 25s. for hamels.
Goats	...	...	10s. to 15s.
Mealies	...	...	12s. 6d. per muid.
Kaffir corn	...	...	12s. „
Wheat	...	...	15s. „
Fine grease wool	...	...	3d. per lb.
Coarse „	...	...	1d. „
Mohair „	...	...	6d. „

There are at the present date 22 traders' licences in Beres District, and during the past 12 months there have been two hawkers' licences given, of which two were free.

The number of passes issued at this office was as under :—

For labour	...	...	...	74
For other purposes	...	...	...	428

L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—MASERU DISTRICT, 1900-1901.

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.

Few events of general interest have occurred in the district during the year.

The continuation of the war is irksome and wearying to both Europeans and natives, and all will be thankful to see the end of it. The system of border patrols has been maintained, and exceptionally few cases of theft from the uninhabited farm houses have taken place; such cases as have come to our notice received prompt attention, and the offenders were severely dealt with.

The news of the demise of Her Majesty Queen Victoria was a great blow to us all, and was received with expressions of greatest sorrow. The natives received it with some alarm, and expressed the hope that His Majesty the King would treat them with as much care and patience as their late ruler had done.

A representative gathering of chiefs and councillors assembled at Maseru to witness the reading of the Proclamation announcing the accession of His Majesty King Edward VII. Speeches expressing sympathy with the British Empire at the loss it had sustained, and loyalty to our King, were made by the Paramount and other chiefs.

Numerous Boer families, to avoid being removed to refugee camps, were allowed to take refuge in Basutoland and bring a limited quantity of stock with them.

During the year a fair supply of remounts for the army has been procured in the district in exchange for cattle, but I regret to say that these cattle have been the means of introducing lung sickness throughout the wafd, and that the mortality has been exceptionally heavy.

About the end of last April it was discovered that some stock belonging to native refugees from the Orange River Colony had rinderpest and had infected several herds en route to its destination. The areas were at once isolated and bile-inoculation proceeded with as quickly as possible, with very satisfactory results. The disease also broke out at three other places wherein inoculation has stamped it out. Generally speaking, the outbreak is in a much milder form than in 1897, and its progress is slow.

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.**

COMMERCIAL.

Trade has been good. The following are current prices of Basutoland produce :—

Cattle	...	...	...	£10 to £15
Horses	...	...	...	£15 to £25
Sheep	...	...	...	20s. to 25s.
Goats	...	...	...	5s. to 10s.
Wheat	...	...	...	12s. to 17s. 6d.
Mealies	...	...	...	10s. to 13s.
Kaffir corn	...	...	...	10s. to 13s.
Wool	...	...	...	3d. per lb.
Mohair	...	...	...	4d. „

PUBLIC WORKS.

The public roads received the usual attention, and are in fair order. Public buildings are in good order and repair.

POLICE.

The strength of the Maseru detachment has been increased and consists of :—

Sub-inspector	...	...	...	1
European constables	...	...	..	3
Native constables	...	...	...	2
„ sergeant	...	...	...	1
„ corporals	...	...	...	2
„ privates	...	...	..	56

PATROLS.

The following are particulars of patrols performed during the year :—

Number of patrols	...	...	...	4
Number of men engaged	...	...	...	20
Number of miles patrolled	...	...	...	3,502
Arrests for contravening Liquor Laws	...	...	...	—
Arrests for other offences	...	...	...	9

LOST STOCK.

Return showing action taken in the matter of recovering lost and stolen stock reported :—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	—	—	—	—	—
Cattle ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep ...	3	—	3	—	3
Goats ...	—	—	—	—	—

LICENCES.

The following licences were issued during the year —

General traders	...	...	...	...	22
Paid hawkers	...	...	...	...	1
Free hawkers	'...	...	...	...	—

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.

CRIME.

The following cases were disposed of :—

Theft	...	...	...	...	19
Accessory to theft	...	...	...	...	2
Housebreaking and theft...	...	...	...	...	1
Contravening Pass Regulations	...	...	...	...	18
Rape	...	...	...	...	1
Assault with intent to commit rape	...	...	...	...	1
Contravening Trading Regulations	...	...	...	...	4
„ Masters and Servants Act	...	...	...	...	1
Resisting police	...	...	...	...	1
Contempt of court	...	...	...	...	1
Civil cases	...	...	...	...	1

RETURN OF PASSES.

For Johannesburg mines	...	...	...	—
For Kimberley	„	...	...	17
For Jagersfontein	„	...	...	—
For coal mines (Cape Colony)	...	...	...	—
For domestic service	...	...	...	1,262
For other purposes	...	...	...	5,149
Total	...	...	...	6,428

REVENUE.

The Revenue for the year consists of :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	9,769	10	0
Licences	221	0	0
Fines	125	15	0
Ferry tolls	570	16	6
Fees	20	13	6
Miscellaneous	150	4	0
Total	£10,857	19	0

Tax was paid on 9,438 huts.

Arrear tax amounts to £882 10s.

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.

RETURN OF PRISONERS.

Number of prisoners received into gaol during year	22
" " convicted and sentenced ...	22
" " discharged unconvicted ...	—
" " in gaol on 30th June, 1901 ...	33

No floggings were inflicted during the year.

C. GRIFFITH,

Assistant Commissioner.

Maseru,

June 30th, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT.—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1900-1901.

The political condition of Mafeteng District during the past twelve months has been regulated by outside influences, which have affected the Basuto more or less.

The people themselves have been law abiding and the chiefs have cheerfully and ably assisted in carrying out all Government measures.

Military movements and operations in the Orange River Colony, according to their nature, have interested or excited the natives and it was a matter of regret when the British garrison was withdrawn from Wepener in January.

The column, 700 strong, crossed the Basutoland border into Mafeteng District and marched south en route to Aliwal North.

The column was accompanied by a party of Basuto guides specially appointed by the Resident Commissioner, and the troops and their transport passed through the district in perfect order, the natives greeting them with acclamation along the line of march.

Since the garrison withdrew from Wepener several British columns passed through the Orange River Colony clearing the country, and the commanding officers have, from time to time, sent many Boer families and their moveable property into Basutoland. Over 500 such refugees, men, women, and children, are now in this district. The men hold the usual protection certificates issued by officers of the Orange River Colony, and all have been registered at the Assistant Commissioner's Office.

A vast number of natives who were domiciled in the Orange River Colony have also come here with their stock.

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.

Basutoland is regarded as a safe highway for sending captured stock to the Cape Colony, and consequently the Basuto of this district have suffered on account of damage done to pasturage and cultivated lands.

The country is overstocked owing to refugee stock of all kinds and to captured stock sent by the military authorities to the remount officers to exchange for ponies. The indiscriminate introduction has brought disease into the country, and the cattle were badly affected with lung sickness and horses with a variety of complaints.

The outbreak of rinderpest at Don-Don on the Caledon River was directly traced to cattle brought into Basutoland from the Orange River Colony.

The disease spread into Mafeteng District and infected several herds in Kolo Ward. A quarantine was formed, and inoculation with bile is being energetically carried on inside this area by competent persons appointed by Government. So far the disease does not seem of so virulent a type as that which destroyed cattle in 1897. The rapidity of the work of inoculation entirely depends on the supply of suitable bile, and the plan now being carried out is a thorough system of progressive inoculation of cattle from Kolo through the district. If the supply of bile can be kept up it is hoped that inoculation will stamp out the disease.

The Mafeteng Hospital has been occupied by sick and wounded men sent in from columns operating in adjacent districts of the Orange River Colony, and all have received every care and attention from the District Medical Officer and hospital staff.

A few cases of theft by Basuto in the Orange River Colony were promptly dealt with and the stolen property recovered.

The border was closed and no natives were allowed to enter the Orange River Colony, and the Basutoland Mounted Police constantly patrolled the frontier and enforced the regulations.

Repairs have been carried out to Government buildings at the Magistracy, and the district roads have been maintained in good order.

A dam wall is in course of construction at a vley on the reserve, and when the work is completed a large supply of water will be secured for stock.

Religious instruction and educational work amongst the natives is energetically carried on by the clergy of the various mission societies.

The Mafeteng detachment of Basutoland Police is well equipped, and the men have good horses though the latter have been considerably overworked during the last six months.

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.**

The strength of the detachment is :—

Sub-inspector	...	...	...	...	1
European constables	...	...	...	...	1
Native officers	...	...	...	...	2
Native sergeant	...	...	...	...	1
„ corporal	...	...	...	...	1
„ privates	...	...	...	...	32
„ constable	...	...	...	...	1

One sub-inspector and eight special police were attached.

The police did good service, as the following statistics show :—

Number of patrols	...	...	...	602
Number of men employed	...	...	...	1,079
Number of miles patrolled	...	...	...	18,785
Number of arrests	...	...	...	73

The civil and criminal cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court were as follows :—

Civil actions	...	...	...	...	1
Theft	...	...	...	...	22
Liquor Regulations	...	...	...	...	—
Homicide	...	...	...	...	1
Other crimes	...	...	...	...	12

GAOL.

Number of prisoners received into gaol during year	36
Number of prisoners discharged unconvicted	... 31
Number of prisoners convicted and sentenced	... 5
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June, 1901	... 16

No floggings were inflicted.

I append a return showing result of tracing lost and stolen stock :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	—	—	—	—	—
Cattle ...	12	12	—	12	—
Sheep ...	35	35	—	31	4

The undermentioned trading licences were issued :—

General traders	...	...	...	23
Paid hawkers	...	...	...	2
Free hawkers	...	...	...	2

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.

The crops were generally poor, owing to the want of rain at proper seasons, and to early frosts.

A great number of horses were purchased by the military for remount purposes.

The following were the ruling prices :—

Wheat, per 200 lbs.	...	...	12s. to 15s.
Mealies	..	...	10s. to 12s.
Kaffir corn	..	...	15s.
Barley, per 165 lbs.	...	...	12s.
Oats, per 163 lbs.	...	...	15s.
Oat hay, per 100 bundles	...	...	30s.
Slaughter cattle, each	...	...	12l. to 15l.
Horses	..	...	12l. to 20l.
Sheep	..	...	10s. to 15s.
Goats	..	...	10s. to 12s.
Wool, per lb.	...	...	3d.
Mohair	..	...	6d.

I append a return of Revenue collected :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	...	...	8,501 10 0
Licences	...	...	232 0 0
Fines	...	...	360 2 0
Fees	...	...	10 1 11
Miscellaneous	...	...	112 15 9
Total	...	£9,216	9 8

Tax was paid on 7,962 huts.

Arrear hut tax collected amounts to £539 10s.

The border being closed owing to the war, only the under-mentioned number of persons received passes at the Assistant Commissioner's Office to leave the territory :—

For the mines, Johannesburg	...	—
„ „ „ Kimberley	...	—
„ „ „ Jagersfontein	...	36
„ „ coal mines, Cape Colony	...	5
„ „ farm and domestic service	...	1,838
„ „ other purposes	...	2,198

In addition to the above, large gangs of Basuto labourers were forwarded to Bloemfontein and other centres on requisition of the military authorities.

T. P. KENNAN,

Assistant Commissioner.

Mafeteng.

30th June, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT.—MOHALE'S HOEK DISTRICT,
1900-1901.

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.

As I only assumed charge of this district on 17th June, I regret that I am not in a position to forward a full report of events during the year.

Here, as elsewhere, the war has been the absorbing topic of the year, and public attention among the natives seems to have been centred on the military operations occurring in the Orange River Colony in the immediate neighbourhood of their border, rather than on the multifarious causes of petty squabbles which are always cropping up among the mixed tribes of this district.

The Mocheku-Griffith case is still smouldering, but with Mocheku in safe keeping at Maseru it can hardly do more than smoulder till affairs seem ripe to settle it finally.

In May last the Bataung, seeing so many dismantled and deserted farms in their vicinity, were unable to resist the temptation, and—losing their heads altogether—they raided in large numbers with vehicles of all sorts into the Orange River Colony. They managed to collect a good deal of more or less worthless furniture, &c., and odds and ends, which they brought into Basutoland. The Resident Commissioner came down on the 16th with Lerothodi, and, after enquiring into the case, ordered all the raiders to pay a stiff fine and to surrender all loot which had been taken, to me at this office.

The fine was promptly paid, and a large quantity of furniture, &c., was brought in and registered and stored in the Government buildings to await disposal at the cessation of hostilities.

I attach a report on the health of the district by the Medical Officer. A report on schools has already been sent in.

The Revenue of this district shows a large increase on last year, as will be seen by the following return :—

REVENUE.

				£	s.	d.
Hut Tax.	...	...	...	8,762	0	0
Licences.	...	...	...	151	10	0
Fines	...	...	...	542	2	6
Fees of court or office	...	...	...	4	19	0
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	109	2	6
Total				£9,569	14	0

I attach the usual district annual returns :—

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901

STRENGTH OF POLICE.

European sub-inspector	...	...	...	1
European constable	...	...	...	1
Native sergeant	...	...	...	1
Native corporal	...	...	...	1
Native 1st class privates	...	...	...	5
Native 2nd class privates	...	...	...	18
Native special police	...	...	...	9

With the exception of the special police the above are all clothed, mounted, and equipped.

PATROLS.

The following patrols were carried out and arrests made during the year :—

Number of patrols	...	...	...	69
Number of men engaged	...	...	...	226
Mileage covered by patrols	...	...	...	18,950
Arrests—Liquor	...	...	...	6
„ No passes	...	...	...	51
„ Miscellaneous	...	...	...	146

LOST STOCK REPORTED.

Description.	Re-ported.	Traced.	Re-covered.	Not traced.	Not re-covered.	Remarks.
Horses ...	19	7	7	12	12	—
Cattle ...	123	68	67	55	56*	* 1 beast killed by thieves for food.
Sheep, &c. ...	319	98	98	221	221	

RETURN OF PASSES.

Kimberley and Jagersfontein	...	—
Johannesburg and Cape Colony coal mines	...	—
Farm and domestic labour	...	2,039
Other purposes	...	2,814
Total	...	4,853

A large number of men were sent out for military purposes, viz., railway work, &c., but these are not included in above return.

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.

CRIMINAL CASES.

Criminal cases heard in this Court are as under :—

Culpable homicide	...	...	...	3
Liquor Law...	...	...	...	9
Theft	...	...	...	53
Assault	...	...	...	1
Passes and Border Regulations	...	...	...	20
Forgery	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	15
Total	...	...	...	102

There were no floggings and no civil cases.

GAOL RETURN.

Prisoners committed to gaol	...	...	...	87
" sentenced	...	...	...	55
" discharged unconvicted	...	...	...	28
" removed to other gaols	...	...	...	4
" in gaol on 30th June, 1901...	...	...	...	10

CURRENT PRICES.

The average price of stock and grain at present may be taken as under :—

Horses	...	...	...	£10 to £35
Cattle	...	...	...	£6 to £14
Sheep	...	...	...	6s. to 12s. 2d.
Mealies, per bag	...	...	...	10s.
Kaffir corn	...	...	...	20s. 2d.
Wheat	...	...	...	15s.

Money is plentiful among the natives, and trade would be brisk if an adequate supply of goods could be kept up; this, however, is barely possible in view of the regulations against rinderpest instituted by the Cape Government at Palmeitein.

There is a good deal of sickness about among cattle and horses, but not so much as might be expected when one remembers the miscellaneous crowds of captured stock which for the past year have been poured into and through the district.

Arrear hut tax during year amounted to £671, whilst hut tax was paid on 8,091 huts.

L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Mohale's Hoek,
30th June, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT.—QUTHING DISTRICT,
1900-1901.BASUTO
LAND,
1900-1901.

Little of general interest has occurred in Quthing district during the past year.

The excitement caused by the war with the Boers has quieted down to a great extent, the issue being no longer looked upon as doubtful.

This district not bordering on the Orange River Colony, there was less temptation, as compared with some other parts of Basutoland, for the Quthing natives to indulge in looting on Boer farms. A certain amount of thieving has gone on, but not much more than prevails in ordinary times. This was proved, in the course of an inquiry which was held here in August, 1900, by messengers from the Paramount Chief, when it was found that out of some hundreds of stock brought in by natives during the war, only a comparatively small number could not be properly accounted for.

A gang of horse thieves was traced out and several of them arrested in October, 1900, the ringleader only contriving to escape for a time, and being captured by the Assistant Commissioner of Berea some months later. From the confessions of these men, it appears that they were in the habit of stealing horses from Basutoland and selling them in East Griqualand, principally to a well-known trader in the Mount Fletcher district. This traffic appears to have been carried on for some considerable time.

Illicit trade in Cape brandy still continues, as previously reported, principally with East Griqualand for the time being. A conviction was obtained against one Macdonald, another Mount Fletcher trader, in July, 1900, but the case was quashed, on review, on some technicality.

A number of complaints from natives of alien races, such as Baphuti and Ba-Tembu, against the Basuto chiefs for harsh and unfair treatment have been brought to this office in the course of the year. It would also seem from the increasing frequency of such complaints that the intention is to drive these aliens to remove out of the territory and to leave Basutoland for the Basuto. As, however, Quthing District (formerly Moirosi's country) was originally the home of the Baphuti, with whom some Tembu clans were incorporated, it is manifestly undesirable that they should be dispossessed by the Basuto, most of whom are comparatively new comers having settled in the district in the course of the last 20 years.

Cordial relations are maintained with the neighbouring districts of the Cape Colony. Evidence tendered against the East

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.**

Griqualand trader, who made a practice of buying stolen horses, has not been taken advantage of, and the liquor traffic goes on unchecked by the Colonial authorities.

The crops have mostly been scanty here, owing principally to drought. Locusts made their appearance as usual in the early summer and did some damage among the wheat, but their stay was not prolonged. A number were destroyed by means of the locust fungus obtained from the Cape Bacteriological Department.

Large numbers of cattle, mares, and sheep have been purchased by natives from the Imperial Remount Department during the last few months. It is to be wished that steps might be taken to diminish the number of inferior pony stallions at present running half-wild in the mountains, as, with the present influx of well bred mares, there is a chance under proper management of materially improving the race of Basuto ponies. Unluckily the Basuto habitually castrate all their best colts, for fear of their neighbours deriving benefit from them as stallions, and as a rule only the worthless ones are left entire. The rapid deterioration of the breed is largely due to this cause, assisted to some extent by the effects of overstocking on a diminishing pasturage.

The largely increased traffic through this district to North Basutoland, owing to ordinary routes being closed through the Orange River Colony, has put considerable strain on the local wagon roads, which, however, are in passable order.

A new pont is required for the Orange River, the present one being nearly worn out.

The water works at Moyeni Camp have maintained their supply through the year, in spite of the drought which prevailed during most of the summer.

Some improvements have been effected with a view to securing purer water and increased pressure.

Reports on the Government aided schools have been recently sent in.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.				£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	...	...	...	5,514	0	0
Licences	...	...	...	142	19	6
Fines	...	...	...	257	10	0
Ferry tolls	...	...	...	341	11	3
Fees of court or office...	...	...	...	5	18	6
Miscellaneous receipts...	...	...	...	142	18	0
Total	...	...	...	£6,404	17	3

Amount of arrear tax paid was £243.

Number of huts on which tax was paid was 5,437.

LICENCES.

General hawkers' licences issued	...	14
Paid hawkers' „ „	...	2
Grain passes ... ...	...	13

BASUTO-
LAND
1900-1901

PASSES.

Passes for mines, Johannesburg	...	1
„ „ Kimberley...	...	133
„ „ Jagersfontein	...	17
„ coal mines, Cape Colony	...	90
„ farm and domestic service	...	1,799
„ other purposes ...	...	6,003
Total		8,043

POLICE.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	...	...	...	1
European constable	...	...	...	1
Native sergeant	...	...	...	1
„ corporal	...	...	...	1
„ privates	..	..	...	23
Special police	...	...	...	4

RETURN OF PATROLS.

Number of patrols	...	...	74
Number of men employed	...	...	128
Number of miles patrolled	...	...	4,164
Arrests for contravening Pass Regulations.	...	...	45
Arrests for contravening Liquor Regulations.	...	...	6
Arrests for other offences	...	...	5

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.**

CASES TRIED.

The following is a return of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court:—

Theft	12
Contravening Pass Regulations	29
Contravening Special Laws <i>re</i> Orange River Colony.	1
Contravening Special Border Regulations	13
Contravening Trading Regulations	10
Resisting police	10
Assault	4
Culpable homicide	2
Contempt of court	1
Trespass on private property for an unlawful purpose.	1
Escape from custody	2
Attempt to escape	2
Conspiring to defeat ends of justice	1
Forging and issuing a forged document	1
Attempt to defraud Government	1
Being in unlawful possession of arms the property of His Majesty's Government.	1
Civil cases	2

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	54
Number of prisoners convicted and sentenced	54
Number of prisoners discharged unconvicted	—
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June, 1901	17

No floggings were inflicted.

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Horses	£10 to £20.
Oxen	£10 to £15.
Cows	£5 to £10.
Sheep	10s. to 20s.
Goats	10s. to 15s.
Wool	3d. per lb.
Mohair	6d. „
Wheat... ..	16s. per bag.
Mealies	14s. „
Kaffir corn	20s. „

RETURN OF LOST OR STOLEN STOCK.

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	42	9	33	5	37*
Cattle	37	21	16	21	16
Sheep	5	5	—	—	5†
Goats	87	77	10	77	10

S. BARRETT,

Assistant Commissioner.

Quthing,

30th June, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT,
1900-1901.

Very little of any importance has occurred in this district during the year.

The progress of the war has been keenly watched, and the Basutos are unable to understand why the Boers do not submit to the inevitable; to their minds, they are of opinion that the enemy are hopelessly beaten.

In March a dispute arose between Chiefs Sekake and Nkhuebe Letsie, residing in Quthing, over some derelict stock.

Sompe, the latter's son, living near the border, came over with an armed following and drove Sekake's people away from their cattle posts in the mountains, and destroyed the huts. No opposition appears to have been offered, so the arms were not used. This matter is being attended to by the Paramount Chief, who also has in his hands the longstanding boundary question between Mpete and Sekake, which I mentioned in my last report.

A murder of rather a brutal nature was committed above Sethlabatebes, in Chief Sekakla's ward, by a Hlangwani named Sekale, who waylaid a Zulu returning home to Natal with some goats and killed him with a kerrie and then buried the body. Not

* Four traced to Matatiele. Thieves fined by Chief Nkuebe.

† Sheep were slaughtered before discovery; Compensation paid to owners.

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.**

until a month afterwards was the corpse discovered by relations of deceased ; and the case was subsequently dealt with at Maserū by the Resident Commissioner, who convicted and sentenced him to twenty years' imprisonment.

The sad intelligence announcing the death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria was received here on the 23rd January ; the unexpected news came as a shock.

Large swarms of locusts appeared throughout the district at the commencement of the new year, but owing to the very backward condition of all crops no damage was done.

Lung sickness has been rife since January ; the infected areas were promptly quarantined and inoculation carried on ; the disease took a virulent form and an unusually high percentage of cattle died. In all instances the outbreaks were traced to stock which the Remount Department had exchanged away for horses at Hlakanelos'.

In consequence of the above, the Cape Government closed their border against all cattle from Basutoland.

There has been a steady demand for good serviceable ponies, and large numbers have been sold by the natives who have been tempted by the enhanced prices paid.

The crops consisting of wheat, mealies, and kaffir corn have been a complete failure this season due to the very severe drought which did not break up till last January. I fear there will be a good deal of distress before next year's harvest can be reaped.

Sheep and goats appear to thrive very well in these mountainous regions ; they are entirely free from scab.

The mortality amongst young children has been particularly severe.

At this camp the water supply is very limited.

There are three Government aided schools in this district ; reports on them were sent in last month.

No cases of ill-treatment of Basutoland natives in neighbouring territories have been reported at this office.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.				£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	...	...	...	3,136	0	0
Licences	...	...	...	85	0	0
Fines	...	...	...	34	10	0
Fees of court or office	...	...	...	1	0	0
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	2	2	0
Total				£3,258	12	0

Amount of arrear hut tax collected was £109 10s.

Number of huts on which tax was paid was 3,089.

BASUTO-
LAND
1900-1901.

LICENCES.

General traders' licences issued	...	2
Paid hawkers' " "	...	65

POLICE.

The strength of the police detachment is as follows :—

Corporal	...	...	...	1
Privates	...	...	...	14

CASES TRIED.

The following cases were tried in my Court :—

Theft	...	...	...	11
Contravening Section VII.	...	...	...	2
Contravening Pass Regulations	...	...	...	1
Housebreaking	...	...	...	1
Resisting police	...	...	...	1
Other offences	...	...	...	3

RETURN OF PATROLS.

Number of patrols	...	...	...	194
" Men employed	...	...	...	272
" Miles patrolled	...	...	...	5,326

ARRESTS.

For contravening Pass Regulations	...	...	...	—
" " Liquor	...	...	...	2
" other offences	...	...	...	5

RETURN OF PASSES.

Passes for mines, Johannesburg	...	...	...	—
" " Kimberley	...	...	...	—
" " Jagersfontein	...	...	...	—
" " Cape Colony	...	...	...	—
" farm and domestic service	...	...	...	1,059
" visiting and other purposes	...	...	...	7,006

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	...	...	...	22
Number of prisoners convicted and sentenced	...	...	...	19
Number of prisoners discharged unconvicted	...	...	...	*—
Number of prisoners in gaol on 30th June	...	...	...	4

No floggings were inflicted.

* Three prisoners were handed over to the Cape Government under the Fugitive Offenders Act.

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.

LOST STOCK RETURN.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.
Horses	10	—	—	—	10
Sheep	217	—	—	—	217

CURRENT PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Horses	...	...	...	£10 to £30
Cattle	...	...	...	£8 to £16
Sheep	...	...	...	15s. to 20s.
Goats	...	...	...	10s. to 20s.
Wool	...	..	...	3½d. per lb.
Mohair	...	...	...	7d. „
Wheat	...	...	...	25s. per bag.
Mealies	...	...	...	25s. „
Kaffir corn	...	...	...	30s. „

E. DuBLYTH,

Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Qacha's Nek,
30th June, 1901.

**REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER,
BASUTOLAND, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH
JUNE, 1901.**

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901,**

The number of attendances treated during the past year shows a slight increase on that of the previous year at some of the stations. At Maseru and at Mafeteng the influx of military patients interfered somewhat with the ordinary routine work.

The following table shows the number of patients treated at each station :—

Station.	New Cases.	Subsequent attendances.	Vaccinations.	In-patients.	Totals.
Leribe ...	3,065	426	540	64	4,095
Maseru ...	6,060	137	—	37	6,234
Mafeteng ...	3,984	—	1,362	42	5,388
Mohale's Hoek	2,711	343	5,791	44	8,889
Quthing ...	1,258	217	5,546	—	7,021
Total ...	17,078	1,123	13,239	187	31,627

The general health of the territory has been on the whole good. There have been an unusually large number of cases of enteric fever among men returning from work on the military railways.

The small-pox epidemic referred to in my last report has subsided, and the country generally has been and is practically free from this disease.

I regret to state that scarlet fever has recently made its appearance, but the epidemic does not appear to be of a severe type.

The health of the police throughout the territory has been uniformly good. No serious cases of illness have occurred among the prisoners.

EDWARD C. LONG,
Principal Medical Officer.

**BASUTOLAND,
1900-1901.**

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT—LERIBE, 1900-1901.

From the subjoined table it will be seen that there is a considerable decrease in the attendances all round. This is partly due to the absence of any serious or widespread epidemic during the period under review, and also to the closing of the dispensary and hospital for a month whilst alterations and repairs were being done to the buildings.

	1900-1901.	1899-1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
Out-patients, dispensary ...	3,065	3,570	—	505
" { subsequent { attendances }	426	353	73	—
In-patients, hospital ...	64	84	—	20
Vaccinations	540	1,825	—	1,285
Total	4,095	5,832	73	1,810

EPIDEMICS.

There were no serious epidemics during the year. Small-pox, which was referred to in last report, was stamped out in August in Mitchell's ward. The epidemic was confined to two villages and was mild in character. Towards the end of July Samuel's village, which adjoins the reserve, became infected. The disease was confined to one family and did not spread. Vaccinations with calf lymph were made in all the surrounding neighbourhood; 540 were vaccinated at this time, which represents the total for the year.

A few cases of whooping cough and measles were seen, but they were the dregs of the previous epidemics.

Seventeen cases of enteric fever were seen, but in none of the cases was the disease contracted in Basutoland. The patients were all boys who had returned ill from the railway works or from the army in the Orange River Colony.

GENERAL HEALTH OF DISTRICT.

This has been good during the year, and it is pleasing to record that the number of patients presenting themselves for treatment for venereal diseases is rapidly decreasing.

Twelve cases of leprosy were seen at the dispensary ; they were all in the preliminary stages of the disease. There is little doubt that this malady is on the increase in this territory, and it will increase more rapidly in the future unless some precautionary measures are adopted. Insanity, which is also on the increase, calls for attention.

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901

HOSPITAL WORK.

Most of the cases treated in the hospital were surgical. The walls of the two wards have been renovated and painted, and additional equipment in the way of bedding has greatly helped the quality of the work done and the comfort of the Medical Officer and the patients. The addition of a native nurse to the hospital staff has supplied a long-felt want.

Thirty operations were done under chloroform during the year. Three patients died, one from gangrene, one from fracture of the cranium, and the other from acute atrophy of the liver.

HEALTH OF PRISONERS.

This has been good during the year notwithstanding the crowded condition of the gaol. Two of the prisoners developed leprosy, and, on my recommendation, they were liberated and kept under observation at their home, which is situate at an isolated spot near the river.

A new gaol has been erected, and the increased accommodation has already decreased what little sickness there was.

GENERAL.

On the evacuation of Ficksburg by the troops on September 8th, 1901, a number of Boer prisoners, with a guard, in all about 80 men, were stationed here. Until the left half of the 23rd field hospital arrived the men were treated at the dispensary. On October 10th the field hospital was moved into this camp and I was put in charge. It still remains here and has been used for the last month as a convalescent home to the stationary hospital, Ficksburg.

Since the hospital passed into my care 102 patients, mostly enteric cases, have been accommodated.

At the present time the hospital is housed in one of the Government buildings.

N. M. MACFARLANE, M.D.,
Medical Officer.

**BASUTO-
LAND.**
1900-1901.

**MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT—
MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1901.**

During the past twelve months there have been 4,026 native attendances at this institution.

Of the above, 42 were in-patients for periods varying from one day to nine weeks.

There were two deaths in the 42 cases, one from septicæmia and the other from perforation of the intestines.

The number of in-patients would have been [considerably larger but for the fact that during the last six months of the period under review all our available resources, in the way of buildings and beds, have been placed by the Basutoland Government at the disposal of the military authorities for military patients, and a monthly average of over 20 in-patients, from various corps of the army, has been kept up since 29th January, 1901. These cases comprised gun-shot wounds, injuries from accident, and diseases, 70 per cent. of the admissions being for enteric fever.

There has been no death among the soldier patients, and all but 13 have now been returned to duty or sent to convalescent institutions.

The out-patient attendance has been well kept up, the numbers for the twelve months being 3,984.

Of this number, 3,154 paid their sixpenny fee; the remaining 830 represent the "free" patients, police, their families, and others entitled to free treatment.

The number of vaccination certificates issued this year is much less than usual, being only 1,362 for the twelve months. This is due to the war.

Both the camp and district of Mafeteng have been a place of refuge for a number of fugitives from the Orange River Colony, and their number has had to be taken into account, as far as the camp is concerned, in the matters of sanitation and of water supply.

The water supply ran very short a few weeks ago, and things looked serious, with a diminished supply and an increased demand, but work at the reservoir and higher up, at the instance of the Assistant Commissioner, resulted in what is a sufficient but not an abundant supply.

I should be glad of an improvement in our water supply, in face of the dry months we have still probably before us, before the rainy season.

Enteric fever and whooping cough are the two diseases which have been most prominent.

There has been a considerable mortality from enteric in the district, mostly amongst young adults.

A number of young children have been carried off by catarrhal pneumonia as a complication of whooping cough.

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.

I have not seen nor heard of a single case of small-pox in the district of Mafeteng or in the camp.

The health of the police detachment under my care continues to be satisfactory; in fact, I consider that, under the circumstances of war, overcrowding, and a not too abundant water supply, the general health of Mafeteng is in a very good condition.

D. M. TOMORY, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer.

Mafeteng,
June 30th, 1901.

ANNUAL MEDICAL REPORT—MOHALE'S HOEK HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY, during year 1900-1901.

Number of cases treated in hospital and as out-patients at dispensary has largely increased when compared with that of previous years.

This shows, I think, that the natives appreciate the medical and surgical assistance which the Government place at their disposal more and more every year.

There were 2,265 vaccination certificates issued to people proceeding to other territories in search of work, and 3,526 persons were vaccinated free of charge by vaccinators sent out to various parts of the district during the prevalence of small-pox during the latter half of last year. The following table gives the attendance of this and the previous twelve months in detail :—

—	1899-1900.	1900-1901.	Increase..
New cases, out-patients ...	2,061	2,711	650
Subsequent attendance ...	300	343	43
In-patients... ..	32	44	12
Vaccination certificates issued ...	380	2,265	1,885
Free vaccination performed ...	—	3,526	3,526
Total	2,773	8,889	6,116

**BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.**

Small-pox made its appearance in the Chief Griffith's ward at the end of 1900, and there were some 89 cases of the disease reported to me; of these 14 died—a small percentage.

With free vaccination of persons in infected villages, as well as of all villages around, and quarantining of those persons affected, as well as the villages in which they resided, as far as practicable the disease was soon got under.

About the same time an epidemic of measles appeared, and several children not carefully nursed died of complicating affections.

Typhoid has cropped up at odd times, and cases have been mostly imported. The disease has certainly not taken a very dangerous form and few infections have occurred from original cases.

Police and prisoners have enjoyed good health, and camp has generally been free from any outbreaks of a serious nature.

Of the 44 patients treated in the hospital four were still under treatment at the end of period under review.

Of the remainder, one died in hospital; three refused operative treatment, and died within a month of removal home; 33 were cured; and three were not improved.

Thirty-seven were surgical cases and seven medical.

Twenty-six operations were performed, mostly minor.

W. R. NATTLE,

Medical Officer.

Mohale's Hoek,

June 30th, 1901.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER, QUTHING, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1901.

The following figures will show the number of out-patients and vaccinations performed during the year :—

Out-patients	...	...	...	1,258
Returned for treatment	...	...	...	217
Vaccinations	...	...	...	5,546
Total	...	...	...	<u>7,021</u>

Thirteen in-patients were temporarily accommodated in the dispensary. Of this number: 10 were admitted for operation.

There was one death. Chloroform was administered 14 times, ether once.

BASUTO-
LAND,
1900-1901.

The district was visited by the usual epidemics of measles, whooping-cough, chicken-pox, and influenza, and there was one case of scarlet fever.

The health of the police detachment and of the prisoners has been good.

It is earnestly to be hoped that a way will be seen to build an entirely new camp for the police away from the present site.

A small room for the accommodation of cases of accident or emergency is also badly wanted.

ALEX. S. GARDINER,

Medical Officer.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 54-60, BACON STREET, E.
1901.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 354.

B E R M U D A.

REPORT FOR 1901.

(For Report for 1900, see No. 322.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
June, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, BACon STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.;
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-24.] Price 1½d.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
327	Bahamas... ..	1900
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia... ..	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
336	British New Guinea	1899-1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar	"
343	Basutoland	1900-1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	"
346	Northern Nigeria	1900-1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900-1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900-1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand... ..	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas... ..	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific... ..	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla... ..	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas... ..	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 354.

BERMUDA,
1901.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 322.)

GOVERNOR SIR H. GEARY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Bermuda, 28th April, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the annual Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1901, which has been prepared by Mr. Hutson, the Colonial Secretary.

The Blue Book will be forwarded at an early date.

I have, &c.,

H. LE G. GEARY,

Lieutenant-General,

Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

BERMUDA,
1901.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Bermuda, 5th April, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to Your Excellency the following Report on the Blue Book for the year 1901:—

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.)—GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The Revenue for the year amounted to £51,436, being in excess of the Revenue for 1900, which was £40,124, by £11,312.

The following tables compare the Revenue and Expenditure for 1901 with that for 1900:—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1900... ..	32,394	7,730	40,124
1901... ..	39,253	12,153	51,436
Increase ...	6,859	4,453	11,312

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1900	17,734	29,798	47,532
1901	19,002	19,638	38,640
Increase ...	1,268	—	—
Decrease ...	—	10,160	8,892

The increased Revenue received during 1901 was to a large extent due to the large importations of food-stuffs, malt liquor, &c., owing to the presence in the Colony during six months of the year of the prisoners of war and an extra regiment forming

their guard, and also to the increased circulation of money following the commencement of the Dockyard Extension Works. The receipts under the head of Customs show an increase over those of 1900 of £6,859. Malt Liquor shows an increase of £1,739; Tobacco, £395; Post Office, £1,163. There was also a repayment of a loan amounting to £2,000 to the Treasury from the Savings Bank.

BERMUDA,
1901.

There was an increase under every heading of Revenue, except that from import tax on Bicycles, Landing Tax on Spirits in Bulk, and Fines of Court.

The Expenditure amounted to £38,640, showing a decrease of the Expenditure as compared with that for 1900 of £8,892. As explained in the Blue Book Report for 1900, an amount of £6,000 was refunded to the Savings Bank by the Treasury in 1900, and there was also a temporary loan to the Savings Bank of £2,000. The amount of decrease of normal expenditure in 1901 as compared with the normal expenditure of the preceding year was £892. Agriculture shows a decrease of £1,072; Legislative a decrease of £666; Post Office a decrease of £1,078; Pilotage a decrease of £112. On the other hand, there was an increase of expenditure under several headings, the most prominent being:—Immigration, £53; Interest, £121; Judicial, £262; Library, £220; Miscellaneous Payments, £683; Public Health, £384; Registration of Births, &c., £31.

(B.)—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1897	35,965	35,704
1898	38,923	39,102
1899	39,955	39,243
1900	40,124	47,532
1901	51,436	38,640

(C.)—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The Assets of the Colony at the end of 1901	
amounted to	£19,781
The Liabilities on the same date amounted	
to	5,354
Showing a balance of	£14,427

BERMUDA,
1901.

(D.)—PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt at the end of 1901 amounted to £49,200, made up as follows:—

Local Inscribed Stock	... ..	£45,500
New Government House Debentures	...	3,700

On £40,000 of the Local Inscribed Stock the rate of interest is $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and on the balance (£5,500) the rate is 4 per cent. The first-mentioned sum was raised in 1893-4 for the purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour. The Stock is redeemable at par in 1923. The sixth annual instalment of £1,000 payable from the general revenue of the Colony on account of the Sinking Fund created in connection with the loan was remitted to London for investment last year.

The amount of £5,500 was raised early in 1900 for defraying a part of the cost of repairing the causeway connecting St. George's with the main Island, a large portion of which structure had been destroyed by a hurricane which passed over the Islands on the 13th September, 1899. Instalments amounting to £450 towards the Sinking Fund to be created in connection with this loan have been remitted to London for investment. The Stock is redeemable at par in 1916.

The average rate of interest on the Government House debentures is $4\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. The original amount of the debt was £11,600, and it is being paid by the appropriation of £500 per annum from the general revenue for the redemption of debentures to the last-mentioned amount.

Under authority of a Resolve of the local Legislature, dated the 19th November, 1901, tenders were invited for the reduction of the Public Debt by purchasing and cancelling Bermuda Government securities to the extent of £6,000. It was only found practicable to reduce the debt by £2,000. The transaction was not completed until January of the present year, and the reduction of the debt by that amount is not, therefore, shown in the return for 1901.

All of the loans referred to were raised locally.

(E.)—CURRENCY.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling, and English money is in universal use. There is no local Government Bank, and there is no paper money in circulation, with the exception of a very limited number of Bank of England notes. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two private Banks, one of which, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, was incorporated by a local Act in 1889.

A Treasury Chest Office, established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments in the Colony, issues Bills of Exchange on His Majesty's Treasury in London, and these bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

BERMUDA.
1901
—

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.)—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

The value of the Imports (exclusive of specie valued at £25,650, and Government stores valued at £243,716) in 1901 was £500,716.

Compared with 1900 this shows an increase of £103,580.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1897 to 1901 inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1897 ...	323,074	95,424	24,550	6,517	195,167	1,416
1898 ...	351,274	104,974	30,611	7,346	205,308	3,305
1899 ...	394,388	104,408	33,119	7,238	246,447	3,176
1900 ...	397,136	104,009	31,488	9,932	250,729	978
1901 ...	500,716	142,911	41,167	11,399	296,937	8,302

In the above figures the value of Government stores—civil, naval, and military—is not included. The estimated quantity of such stores imported into the Colony during 1901 was 30,891 tons, valued at £243,716. The value of the total Imports into the Colony during the year, inclusive of Government stores and specie, was £770,082.

From the above comparative statement of the last five years it will be seen that there was a considerable increase of Imports during the year from all countries as compared with 1900. The total increase, exclusive of specie and Government stores, was £103,580, and the increase from different countries was as follows:—United Kingdom, £38,902; Canada, £9,679; other British Colonies, £1,467; United States of America, £46,208; other countries, £7,324. It is fair to state that the contractors

BERMUDA, engaged in the Dockyard Extension Works imported machinery during the year to the value of £8,000 from the United Kingdom and £6,668 from Buenos Ayres.

The year 1901 was an abnormal one for the Colony as regards the quantity of Imports and commercial prosperity. The large increase of business generally was mainly due to the commencement of the large extension works at His Majesty's dockyard and to the arrival in the Colony of the prisoners of war and the regiment forming their guard.

The increase of Imports from the United Kingdom is mainly due to larger importations of clothing, cotton goods, fancy goods, oilmen's stores, machinery, malt liquor, and coals; that from the Dominion of Canada to larger importations of butter, hay, oats, and potatoes; that from the United States of America to larger importations of beef, coal, cotton goods, flour, lumber, provisions, and oxen and cows.

The principal Imports from the United Kingdom in 1901, compared with 1900, were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1901.	1900.
	£	£
Clothing	8,499	5,064
Cotton goods...	16,390	10,972
Fancy goods ...	4,114	3,457
Oilmen's stores ...	10,419	8,200
Silk goods	2,021	5,587
Sugar	5,192	5,275
Woollen goods ...	9,360	16,948
Machinery	10,376	161
Metal manufactures...	6,078	1,037
Coals	15,983	—
Malt liquor	23,131	854
Whiskey	3,198	3,326
Wine	2,687	2,462
Hardware	2,781	1,822

The principal Imports from Canada were:—

BERMUDA,
1901.

Article.	Value.	
	1901.	1900.
	£	£
Box material	3,673	3,351
Butter... ..	3,589	3,300
Fish	2,901	3,396
Flour	1,756	1,148
Horses... ..	2,400	710
Bran	1,279	1,105
Cheese... ..	1,482	608
Hay	1,881	1,518
Leather manufactures	2,230	931
Oats	3,345	3,092
Lumber	1,270	966
Potatoes	4,705	3,650
Paper	1,096	735

The principal Imports from the United States were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1901.	1900.
	£	£
Beef	11,728	6,109
Bran	4,457	3,166
Butter... ..	12,368	12,554
Coal	12,495	4,684
Cotton goods... ..	10,345	8,692
Fertilizers	5,797	5,060
Fancy goods	2,877	1,988

BERMUDA,
1901.

The principal Imports from the United States—*cont.*

Article.	Value.	
	1901.	1900
Flour	£ 18,242	£ 15,257
Canned fruit and meats	7,164	8,250
Groceries	6,760	6,167
Hardware	6,122	7,533
Leather manufactures	11,725	11,460
Lumber	9,643	8,813
Kerosene oil	6,771	7,034
Oats	7,008	6,286
Provisions	21,314	17,636
Oxen and cows	36,121	29,622
Sheep	3,169	3,823
Sugar	5,827	5,374

Exports.

The value of the Exports (exclusive of specie valued at £6,152) in 1901 was £98,479.

Compared with 1900 this shows an increase of £4,710, but a decrease by £10,152 on the average of the preceding five years.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1897 to 1901 inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
1897 ...	£ 123,082	£ 3,519	£ 1,640	£ 1,213	£ 116,294	£ 416
1898 ...	106,104	4,041	2,138	1,835	97,847	943
1899 ...	119,151	2,063	2,535	1,875	111,638	1,040
1900 ...	93,769	4,683	2,071	1,299	85,599	117
1901 ...	98,479	3,333	1,036	3,456	90,654	—

The principal Exports to the United Kingdom in 1901, compared with 1900, were:—

BERMUDA,
1901.

Article.	Value.	
	1901.	1900.
Arrowroot	£ 1,655	£ 2,242
Bulbs	662	560
Hides	618	844
Tallow... ..	574	534

The principal Exports to Canada were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1901.	1900.
Hides	£ 183	£ 291
Onions... ..	172	447

The principal Exports to the United States were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1901.	1900.
Bulbs	£ 7,634	£ 11,382
Onions... ..	48,597	43,039
Potatoes	25,224	25,207
Miscellaneous vegetables	1,986	2,515

The marked decrease in the value of bulbs shipped to the United States was due to a short crop. Prices were good.

BERMUDA
1901
—

The onion crop was fully up to the average in quantity, but prices were very low owing to the large quantity kept in cold storage in the United States.

(B.)—MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

There are no mines.

Manufactures.

There is an ice factory which manufactures most of the ice locally consumed.

There are two arrowroot factories, one of which, recently established, is equipped with modern plant, and is capable of producing a large quantity of this valuable commodity.

The cultivation and manufacture of arrowroot, which were at one time important industries in this Colony, have, from various causes, greatly declined in recent years. The arrowroot produced in the Colony by the latest approved methods is of an excellent quality, and there is a good opening for investment of a limited capital in this industry.

Fisheries.

It is to be regretted that some organised attempt is not made to develop the fishing industry of this Colony, in the waters of which fish abound in many varieties. During certain months of the year large numbers of flying-fish are found in the adjacent waters around the coast. This fish forms a staple article of food in the Island of Barbados during certain months of the year, and a large fleet of boats is employed in the industry. These fish can be caught with little labour, and an organised fishery, with sufficient capital, would supply the local demand for fish, which is usually much beyond the supply, and reduce the cost of fresh fish, which is at present high. As stated in the last Blue Book Report, the fishing industry of this Colony is not engaged in to any extent by any class of the community as an exclusive means of livelihood, but is carried on by the labouring population to supplement their means of subsistence during the summer months, when there is little or no demand for agricultural labourers. Experienced fishermen could be imported, if necessary, and there is no reason why this Colony should not supply the American market with a large quantity of fresh fish. Red snapper are known to abound on the various banks around these Islands, and this fish is well known in the American market.

Some attention might also be bestowed on the cultivation of lobsters (*palinurus*), oysters, and other shell fish, such as scallops (*pecten*).

A Natural History Society has recently been formed in this Colony, and, should means be provided for research and experiments in the line indicated, it is possible that useful and sufficient data will be supplied to warrant an experiment being made on industrial lines.

BERMUDA
1901.
—

(C.)—AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

The production of onions and potatoes for the New York market is the chief agricultural industry, which has been carried on with varying success for many years. In 1901 the onion-crop was a good one, but the prices low. Attempts are being made to introduce the Bermuda onion to the English markets, the Legislature having voted £1,000 during 1901 to encourage shipments to the United Kingdom. Little or no success attended a previous experiment and expenditure of money for this purpose, and it is feared that the cost of production and transport will prevent the Bermuda onion from competing with the Egyptian and other cheap onions in the English markets.

The potato crop of 1901 was a short one, owing to blight. Prices were fairly good and above the average.

The culture of lily bulbs for export ranks next in importance, and under favourable conditions is a remunerative industry. The lily crop was a small one in 1901, owing to an unfavourable season—the bulbs suffered from the protracted drought. Prices were good. There is still a good demand for bulbs in the usual markets, and the cultivation is again increasing steadily, and it is hoped that the output will reach its former limit. Farmers are taking care to plant good, healthy bulbs after careful selection.

THE PUBLIC GARDEN.

The public garden, which is supported as an experimental agricultural station, is under the control and management of the Board of Agriculture. The Legislature has, since the date of its establishment, voted liberal supplies for its up-keep. During 1901 the extensive green-houses were completed, and provision has been voted for an increased water supply. The Superintendent conducted many useful experiments during the year, although he was heavily handicapped by the exceptional and severe drought during the summer months. Besides endeavouring to teach the farmers how to improve their staple produce, and to combat the many pests that attack their crops, the Superintendent is striving to find some crop for the months during which the land is at present allowed to remain fallow which will prove remunerative without unduly exhausting the land.

BERMUDA,
1901.

(E.)—SHIPPING.

The total number of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1901, in comparison with 1900, is shown in the following table:—

Shipping Entered and Cleared.

	1901.			1900.		
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	689,471	20,324	709,795	566,563	12,556	579,119
American	12,094	28,161	40,255	7,456	9,453	16,909
Austrian	7,440	—	7,440	21,080	—	21,080
Belgian	5,142	—	5,142	—	—	—
Danish	16,032	—	16,032	6,396	1,320	7,716
Dutch	8,072	—	8,072	—	—	—
French	6,428	652	7,080	—	—	—
German	32,174	1,492	33,666	34,721	—	34,721
Greek	3,572	—	3,572	—	—	—
Italian	35,014	1,310	36,324	33,278	—	33,278
Norwegian	25,714	3,509	29,223	12,180	728	12,908
Portuguese	3,242	—	3,242	—	—	—
Russian	—	370	370	—	1,905	1,905
Swedish	—	1,826	1,826	—	—	—
Spanish	30,214	—	30,214	17,784	—	17,784
Uruguayan	—	—	—	4,412	—	4,412
Totals	874,609	57,644	932,253	703,870	25,962	729,832

The increase in the tonnage of vessels entered and cleared shown by the above figures was brought about chiefly by the number of military transports conveying prisoners of war to the Colony, the tonnage of which amounted to 29,749 tons, and also by the arrival of steamers bringing machinery and stores for the Dockyard Extension Works. There was also an increase

in the number of vessels calling at these Islands for coals, and on account of stress of weather. The number of steamships and sailing vessels that called at Murray's anchorage at St. George's for coals and supplies during the year was 140, and the tonnage was 135,574, as compared with 115,674 in 1900. Should the proposed inter-oceanic canal at the Isthmus of Panama be built, it is likely that there will be a large increase in the number of ships calling at Bermuda.

BERMUDA,
1901.

Shipping Entered and Cleared for last Five Years.

Year.	British.	Foreign.
	Tons.	Tons.
1897	300,954	45,584
1898	409,751	62,205
1899	483,430	85,349
1900	579,119	150,713
1901	709,795	222,458

III.—LEGISLATION.

Forty Acts were passed during 1901. Eight of the measures were consolidating Acts, three of which were consolidating and amending Acts.

No. 5.—The Alien Act, 1901. This measure amends the law of the Colony to give effect to a Convention entered into between the United Kingdom and the United States of America relative to the disposal of real and personal property.

No. 15.—The Court Act, 1901. This measure increases the fees to be paid to the Assistant Justices of the Court of General Assize.

No. 18.—The Victoria Day Act, 1901. This measure enacts that the 24th day of May in every year shall be set apart as a public holiday, to perpetuate the memory of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria.

No. 26.—The Speedy Trials Act, 1901. This measure enacts that every prisoner may, with his own consent, be tried by the Court of General Assize at a special criminal session without a jury. The criminal offences triable under the Act include any crime which is not a felony, and any misdemeanour the punishment for which is imprisonment with or without hard labour,

BERMUDA, or a fine, forfeiture, or penalty, with or without the alternative of imprisonment.
1901.

No. 29.—The Financial System Act, 1901. This measure made provision for the appointment of an officer to prepare a scheme for the reorganization of the financial system of the Colony.

No. 35.—The Civil Service Superannuation Act, 1901. This measure amends the law of the Colony relating to the superannuation of public officers, by recognizing the services of officers who entered the public service prior to the 1st January, 1894, the date of the commencement of the operation of the original Act. Those public officers concerned have been given the option of paying up the contributions that would have been deducted from their salaries had the Act been in operation, to enable them to count the whole of their service for superannuation.

No. 39.—The Police Establishment Act, 1901. This measure provides for the re-organization and increase of the police force and the substitution of rural police constables appointed by the Governor for parish constables elected annually by the parishioners.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Inspector of School furnishes the following returns:—

Twenty-two aided primary schools, with 1,266 scholars (655 boys and 611 girls); school fees, £499; Government contributions, £1,064. Three aided secondary schools, with 114 scholars (71 boys and 43 girls); school fees, £337; Government contributions, £139.

In addition to two garrison schools and one dockyard school, there are about 30 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are four secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants, namely, the Saltus Grammar School for white boys, the Collegiate Institute for coloured boys and girls, and the Convent School and High School for white girls, all of which are situated in or near the city of Hamilton.

A Centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations was established in Bermuda in 1891.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.)—HOSPITALS.

There is no hospital maintained by the Colonial Government. There is a cottage hospital near the city of Hamilton, which is supported by voluntary contributions.

Hospitals are maintained in connection with the Imperial **NAVY**,
Naval and Military Establishments. **1901.**

(B.)—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

An asylum for the care and treatment of the insane was first established in this Colony in 1846.

During the year certain alterations were made to the building used by the male inmates to improve the sanitary condition of a certain number of cells. These alterations have proved most satisfactory in every way.

The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent of the institution, and there is a competent staff of attendants.

Four patients (males) were admitted into the asylum in 1901. Two patients were discharged. The daily average number of patients was 45 (24 males and 21 females).

(E.)—SAVINGS BANK.

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1901, was 1,655, having an aggregate sum of £38,023 to their credit, as compared with 1,486 depositors in 1900, having £35,338 to their credit.

The last audited statement (to 30th June, 1901) shows the liabilities of the Bank on that date to be £37,853.

The assets of the Bank on the same date amounted to £34,674, consisting of investments in British Consols, £32,503, and cash to the amount of £2,171.

(F.) FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The number of Friendly Societies on the Register on 31st December, 1901, was nine.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS

(A.)—POLICE.

The regular police force consists of a superintendent, a chief constable, and eight constables.

Eight extra constables are also employed as night watchmen in the city of Hamilton and two in the town of St. George, and there are altogether 21 parish constables who are elected in the several parishes.

BERMUDA,
1901.

The cost of the police establishment in 1901 was:—

Salaries (inclusive of salaries of three Police Magistrates)	... ..	£2,052
Other charges	... ..	72
		<hr/>
		£2,124

One-fourth of the net cost of the regular police establishment is paid by the townships of Hamilton and St. George and parish of Sandys, between which places the regular force is distributed.

Under the provisions of "The Police Act, 1901," which has not yet become law, the police force is to consist of an inspector, three chief constables, and fifteen constables, and the present parish constables, who are elected annually by the parishioners, are to be replaced by rural constables appointed by the Governor. A sum not exceeding £300 per annum is also to be placed at the disposal of the Governor for the employment of detectives when necessary.

(B.)—PRISONS.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 87 (83 males and four females). Of these, 35 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 32 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The cost of the gaols in 1901 was £1,309.

(C.)—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 315, an increase, compared with 1900, of 61, and a decrease, compared with 1899, of 8.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 304, of whom 217 were summarily convicted, 29 discharged for want of evidence, 43 acquitted, and 15 committed for trial in the Superior Courts.

Of the 217 persons summarily convicted, 164 were fined, 10 imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 34 peremptorily imprisoned, 1 was whipped, 1 bound over to keep the peace, and 7 discharged after conviction without punishment.

Twenty-one cases were tried in the Superior Courts during the year, and the convictions numbered 10. Of these, 6 were for offences against the person, and 3 for offences against property.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

BERMUDA.
1901.

(A.)—POPULATION.

At the Census taken on the 31st March, 1901, the resident civilian population was returned as 17,535 persons, the white population numbering 6,383 (3,149 males and 3,234 females), the coloured 11,152 (5,457 males and 5,695 females).

Compared with the figures of the last Census, taken in 1891, the total population shows an estimated increase of 2,522.

The Registrar-General estimates that the natural increment of the civilian population between the time of the taking of the Census on the 31st March, 1901, and the end of the year was 204, and that the excess of immigration over emigration for the same period was 742. He, therefore, estimates that the total resident civilian population at the end of 1901 consisted of 18,481 persons. The estimated total population, including the Naval and Military Establishments and the prisoners of war, was 26,589 persons.

The birth-rate was 34·7, and the death-rate 21·8 per 1,000.

The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 15·4 to 100 births.

(B.)—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The state of the public health during the year was good.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1901 was 3,723; the deaths were 21; the rate of mortality thus being about 5·6 per 1,000.

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been good. The average strength of the European garrison was 1,014, non-European 707. Number of admissions to hospital 897. Ratio of admissions per 1,000 of strength—European 605·52, non-European 400·28. Number of deaths—European 13, non-European 5. Average number of daily sick 70·23. Average strength of officers 169; cases of sickness 27; deaths none. The large increase of sickness and deaths among the European garrison was, to a large extent, if not entirely, due to malarial fever contracted in South Africa. These troops arrived in the Colony as guard to the prisoners of war.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into the Royal Naval Hospital was 287. There were three deaths.

The average daily mean strength of the naval forces in the Colony during the year 1901, corrected for the time each ship remained in port, was 2,002. This included 789 men employed in the dockyard.

BERMUDA,
1901.

(D.)—METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea level, show as follows:—Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·033 inches; mean temperature of the air, 70·3 degrees; mean relative humidity, 79·4 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 9·4 miles; total amount of rainfall during the year, 62·61 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past nine years, 2·21 inches more; number of days during the year on which rain fell, 224.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The total revenue of the Post Office in 1901 was £5,733, compared with a revenue of £4,493 in 1900. The expenditure was £4,535, compared with £4,315 in 1900.

The net revenue from the Post Office in 1901 was thus £1,198.

The Post Office has for some years been more than self-supporting, a steady growth in the revenue owing to increasing transactions having more than counterbalanced the losses arising from reductions in postage. The increase in correspondence is mainly due to the steady immigration into this Colony from the West Indies during the last few years.

POSTAL SERVICE.

The sum of £2,952 was paid out in the Colony on Money Orders from abroad, as compared with £1,946 in 1900.

The amount paid into the Post Office on account of Money Orders for abroad during the year was £18,005, as compared with £12,751 in 1900. A large proportion of this money was sent by West Indian labourers working in this Colony to their families in the West Indies. These Money Orders amounted to £8,780, those to the United Kingdom £6,960. The number of letters dealt with during the year was 907,258, and the parcels 8,112. The Parcel Post service has increased considerably. The Bermuda Government pays a subsidy of £750 for the conveyance of mails between the Colony and New York, and subsidies amounting to £500 for conveyance of mails between the Colony and Halifax, N.S., Jamaica, Turks Islands, and the West Indies.

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

BERMUDA,
1901

The inland telegraph service, which is under the control of the military, provides telegraphic communication between the principal parts of the Colony. An efficient telephone service throughout the Colony is worked by a private company.

The cables of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited, and the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, both of which companies are under subsidy from the Imperial Government, connect Bermuda with the outside world through Halifax on the one hand, and Turks Islands and Jamaica on the other. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890, and that to Turks Islands and Jamaica in 1898. The Company also have a cable between Hamilton and St. George for the use of the public.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary	2,199
Military establishments	207,847

Compared with 1900 the latter return shows an increase of £61,567.

The expenditure on the naval establishments is not returned.

The average strength of the regular military forces at Bermuda in 1900 was 1,721, and the average strength of the naval forces 2,002.

Return of Militia.—The Bermuda Militia Artillery, 359 officers and men, and the Submarine Miners Engineer Militia, 40 officers and men.

Return of Volunteers.—Bermuda Rifle Volunteer Corps, 319 officers and men.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

Mr. Eyre Hutson, appointed to succeed Mr. Alison as Colonial Secretary, arrived in the Colony on the 16th July.

Mr. Allan F. Smith, Colonial Postmaster, acted as Colonial Secretary from the 1st January to the 15th July.

BERMUDA,
1901.

Mr. Thomas S. Reid, Mayor of Hamilton, was appointed to the Legislative Council on the 16th September, in the room of Mr. S. S. Ingham, deceased.

The Hon. F. W. Major, Receiver-General, was appointed, on the 16th November, to report on the financial administration of the Colony.

The Hon. R. D. Darrell was appointed an Assistant Justice of the Court of General Assize, *vice* Hon. T. N. Dill, resigned.

IMMIGRATION.

During the year 1901 the number of immigrants that arrived in these Islands from the West Indies was abnormally high. The Immigration Officer at Hamilton estimates the number to have been 795. Of these, 118 returned to the West Indies, or left the Colony temporarily. 148 Italians were also imported from the Argentine as labourers by the contractors for the Dockyard Extension Works.

The total number of immigrants for the year is estimated at 1,002, and the increase of immigration over emigration at 884.

The demand for labourers and mechanics still keeps up.

The high rate of wages was maintained during the year in spite of the large increase in the supply of labourers and mechanics.

I have &c.,

EYRE HUTSON,

Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency

Sir Henry Le Guay Geary, K.C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

LONDON :
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 24-40, BACON STREET, E.
1902.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 349.

BRITISH GUIANA.

REPORT FOR 1900-1901.

(For Report for 1899-1900, *see* No. 318.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
March, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACon STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-19.] Price 2d.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
321	Lagos	1900
322	Bermuda	"
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados	"
327	Bahamas	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia... ..	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
336	British New Guinea	1899-1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar... ..	"
343	Basutoland	1900-1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	"
346	Northern Nigeria	1900-1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica... ..	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 349.

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901
—

BRITISH GUIANA.

(For Report for 1899-1900, see No. 318.)

ACTING GOVERNOR ASHMORE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
Georgetown, Demerara,
December 16, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1900-1901, together with the report of the Assistant Government Secretary thereon.

2. Under "Land Grants," on page 20, Mr. Hampden King has noted the progress which has been made in quite recent years in the movement for establishing a peasantry on the Crown lands of the Colony.

I have, &c.,
A. M. ASHMORE.

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1900-1901.

FINANCIAL.

GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The Revenue of the year, as shown below, amounted to £509,950 8s. 0d., being a decrease of £28,888 6s. 3½d. on the Revenue for the previous year.

Revenue.

	1899-1900.			1900-1901.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs	324,979	10	4½	310,606	4	9½
Excise	126,497	19	5½	110,119	7	6
Stamps	22,881	18	7½	22,027	5	8
Fees and Taxes	2,792	13	10½	2,637	3	0
Government Lands, Houses, and Establishments.	8,257	13	6½	8,823	10	10½
Post Office and Telegraph	3,616	1	2½	3,648	7	4½
Crown Lands	4,983	19	1	6,409	5	11
Gold Industry	18,953	3	7	17,957	7	2
Miscellaneous	11,044	6	5½	8,382	4	6½
Interest	7,088	4	9½	11,576	11	5
Repayment of Loans and Advances ...	7,743	3	3½	7,762	19	9
Total	£538,838	14	3½	£509,950	8	0

The Expenditure for the year amounted to £505,492 11s. 3d., and as compared with that of the previous year is less by £20,050 5s. 11½d.

Expenditure.

BRITISH
GUAYANA
1900-1901.

	1899-1900.	1900-1901
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
His Excellency the Governor ...	5,188 10 8½	5,199 18 4
Government Secretariat ...	4,494 15 10	4,316 7 6
Auditor General ...	3,379 4 5	3,290 0 8½
Receiver General, including Commis- saries.	15,049 13 5	15,221 0 1
Customs ...	11,255 2 8½	11 551 11 6½
Colonial Civil Engineer ...	7,570 1 5	6 337 17 9½
Public Works ...	24,413 1 4	21,568 12 1½
Government Land Department ...	8,130 10 11½	8,178 8 4½
Harbours ...	1,107 17 11½	1,117 3 1½
Immigration ...	33,998 11 5½	28,865 14 4½
Poor, including Almshouses ...	15,589 3 1½	13,611 9 9
Post Office ...	26,837 7 0½	26,395 6 10½
Government Agent, North - Western District.	1,777 10 4½	813 13 10½
Education :—		
Queen's College ...	2,677 12 4½	2,563 11 3½
Primary ...	24,849 19 5	25,270 3 6½
Underneeming School ...	2,558 10 11½	2,523 1 10½
Orphan Asylum ...	1,238 5 1	1,253 0 9½
Medical Department ...	21,323 8 0	20,287 3 8
Hospitals and Asylums ...	34,062 6 6	33,900 12 7½
Police ...	53,699 6 8½	49,883 11 8½
Prisons ...	14,911 18 5	14,876 1 10
Botanic Gardens ...	3,766 7 9½	5,090 6 7½
Militia ...	5,552 11 10	5,251 10 7
Registration ...	1,308 15 6½	1,442 7 4½
Carried forward...	324,735 12 11½	308,800 16 4½

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901.

Expenditure—cont.

	1899-1900.	1900-1901.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward	324,735 12 11½	308,808 16 4½
Government Laboratory	1,482 13 2	1,477 7 9½
Central Board of Health	2,537 2 11½	2,089 17 4½
Judicial	28,719 14 5½	28,730 14 4½
Ministers of Religion and Missionaries	22,226 0 8½	21,942 17 3
Department of Mines	7,869 19 9½	7,626 9 7
Commissioner, Essequibo and Pome- eroon Rivers.	2,427 16 2½	1,782 15 2
Steam Communication	17,476 13 4	16,186 13 3
W. I. & Panama Telegraph Company	4,205 14 2	4,129 2 6
Roads	22,492 14 6½	19,951 1 6
Vaccination	167 12 11	212 3 6
D'Urban Course	100 0 0	100 0 0
Municipal	11,920 0 0	11,795 0 0
Royal Agricultural Society	1,041 13 4	1,091 13 4
Miscellaneous, Unforeseen	7,371 11 11	8,724 6 2
Superannuation Allowances	18,655 1 10	18,467 19 4
Public Debt	38,994 12 0½	38,952 5 7
Interest	6,177 4 8	4,990 8 6
* Amounts provided by Resolution of Combined Court.	5,080 6 3	6,893 0 6
† Amounts not provided	1,860 11 11½	1,539 19 2
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ...	£525,542 17 2½	£505,492 11 3

* These amounts do not appear on the Annual Estimate as do the items above them. They are for services becoming necessary after passing of Estimate

† These are amounts expended in anticipation of the authority of the Combined Court

The following is a comparative Statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years:—

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1896-97	555,774 16 4	590,616 3 1
1897-98	505,368 12 3	564,556 9 3
1898-99	525,865 1 2	525,387 10 6
1899-1900	538,838 14 3½	525,542 17 2½
1900-1901	509,950 8 0	505,492 11 3

Comparing the Revenue of the first with that of the last year of the above table, there will be found a falling off of some £45,824. On a similar comparison it will be seen that the expenditure has been reduced by £35,124.

TAXATION.

The Duties of Customs levied during the year show, generally speaking, an upward tendency. The *ad valorem* rate was increased from 10 to 15 per cent. with a rebate of 5 per cent. on the duties on all goods except Tobacco, Spirits, Opium, Cannabis Indica, its extracts and its preparations, including Bhang, Gange, Charas and Majoon, and Matches.

In the case of thirty-three items on the Specific List, there was an increase of duty, while six items were removed from the Free Schedule and required to pay either specific or *ad valorem* duty.

Fifteen items were transferred from the *ad valorem* list to the Specific Duty List.

In the case of twenty-two items on the Specific Duty List, the duties were reduced.

The system of assessing the duties upon Spirits and Strong Waters, in force prior to the enactment of the Customs Duties Ordinance of 1899, was returned to, the duty per gallon being carried out at \$3.50 per gallon, with the proviso that the importation of spirits 25% or more under proof be prohibited, except such as may be passed by the Comptroller as Liqueurs.

The provision in the Tax Ordinance under which ruinous land was required to pay a tax of 1½d. per acre was withdrawn. This tax was originally imposed with a view to preventing the locking up of land, and to provide a means for obtaining possession of land, large tracts of which were lying practically ownerless and of no value to the community. The provision had always been objected to, and had had no practical result.

BRITISH
GUIANA.
1900-1901

The Excise duty on Rum manufactured in the Colony was reduced from \$2.50 to \$2.15 per gallon. The effect of this has been to much improve the position of the retail spirit dealers.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The Assets of the Colony on the 31st March, 1901, stood as follows:—

Cash Balance	...	£23,104	1	0½	
Due by Loan Account pending issue of Bonds	...	5,558	14	1	
		£28,662	15	1½	
Less—Held for Sink- ing Fund Invest- ment	...	6,546	19	0	
					£22,115 16 1½
Advances	...				39,459 18 9½
Repayment of Loans (invested)	...				50,781 15 1
					£112,357 10 0

And on the same date the Liabilities were:—

Deposits due Sundry Bodies and Persons	£159,833	10	11
Unclaimed Balances	10,042	3	1
	£169,875	14	0½

Leaving an excess of Liabilities to the extent of ... £57,518 4 0½

as compared with £72,914 0s. 10d. at the end of the previous twelve months.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The following is a Statement of the Public Debt on 31st March, 1901:—

For sums borrowed for the construction of Public Works and Public Purposes	£493,686	8	4
For sums expended on Public Works or used for redemption of Bonds, due to the Crown Agents or to the General Cash pending the issue of Bonds	75,007	3	10½
Carried forward	£568,693	12	2½

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

Brought forward	...	£568,693	12	2½	BRITISH GUIANA, 1900-1901
For sums borrowed and advanced to Corporations on the security of their Revenues outstanding on 31st March, 1901	...	194,713	11	8	
		£763,407	3	10½	
For sums borrowed by Consolidated Immigration Loan Commissioners on the security of the Revenue of the Colony	...	200,000	0	0	
Total amount for which the Revenue of the Colony is pledged...	...	£963,407	3	10½	

At the corresponding date of the previous year this total was less by £14,567 1s. 2d.

From and out of the moneys raised by Loan for Public Purposes, sums aggregating £367,780 have been advanced from time to time to Corporations and Public Bodies on the Security of their Revenues as follows:—

To the Mayor and Town Council of Georgetown	...	£105,417
To the Mayor and Town Council of New Amsterdam	...	18,645
To the Commissioners in aid of Water Supply Works	...	122,167
To the Commissioners of Vlissengen	...	41,216
Demerara-Essequibo Railway	...	41,667
Miscellaneous Loans recoverable	...	38,668
		£367,780

Full provision is made each year for Sinking Fund and Interest in respect of all Loans for which the revenues of the Colony are directly pledged.

CURRENCY.

Accounts are kept in dollars and cents. British bronze, silver and gold coins and the note issues of the British Guiana and Colonial Banks (in dollars from \$5 upwards), together with a small quantity of United States, Spanish and Mexican gold coin, make up the general currency. The old silver guilder coinage has now been withdrawn from circulation. On the 31st March, 1901, the amount of paper currency in circulation was estimated at £122,034.

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS OF TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE
OF THE MUNICIPALITIES.

Georgetown.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1896-7	51,411	51,057
1897-8	53,115	53,717
1898-9	53,788	53,107
1899-1900	54,755	50,990
1900-1901	57,870	58,726

The principal sources of revenue during the year under report were:—Town Taxes (a tax of 2% on the valuation of all houses and lands in the City), £33,493; Market Fees, £5,458, and Water Rates, £2,694. On the expenditure side £10,078 were absorbed in redemption of Bonds and payment of interest in respect of the Corporation's Debt. Labour and Sanitary Superintendence cost £5,818; Lighting, £3,265; Fire Brigade, £5,245; Salaries, £3,034; Water Works, £4,910; Conservancy, £2,338; Cemeteries, £1,396.

The Fire Brigade of the City is, by law, under the superintendence of the Mayor and Town Council, and is entirely manned from the British Guiana Police Force, the Government and the Corporation dividing the cost equally between them.

The City, which has a population of 53,000, is well lighted by electricity, and there is an electric tramway service on the overhead trolley system, with 10 miles of permanent way laid.

New Amsterdam.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1896-7	10,271	9,212
1897-8	8,934	7,828
1898-9	9,444	8,628
1899-1900	9,254	8,346
1900-1901	9,148*	8,015*

* These figures do not include the Loan and Expenditure in connection with the Electric Light Plant owned and worked by the Municipality.

Town Taxes produced £3,404, and Water Rates, £611. £1,130 were expended on the service of the debt of this Corporation during the past year; £1,716 on Water Works and £900 on Roads.

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901.

DEBTS OF MUNICIPALITIES.

On the 31st December, 1900, the total Debt of the Municipality of Georgetown was £79,764, and of New Amsterdam £20,216. Full provision is made annually by the Corporations for the repayment of loans and for payment of interest thereon.

In the Village Communities, of which there are some 24 in the Colony, with an estimated population of 32,800, the sum of £5,621 was collected for local purposes by means of rates varying from 1% to 4½% on the assessed value of property. The expenditure amounted to £5,258. There was due to the Government on the 31st March, 1901, the sum of £15,000 for loans to Villages.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

A comparison of all imports into the Colony for the years 1899-1900 and 1900-1901 under a general classification shows the following results:—

Articles.	1899-1900.			1900-1901.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
I Live Animals, Food and Drinks and Narcotics	587,290	6	2	637,455	7	6
II. Raw Materials—						
(a.) Textile						
(b.) Metal						
(c.) Other	18,918	0	0	41,810	3	8
III. Manufactured Articles—						
(a.) Textile	142,164	19	6	218,241	13	5½
(b.) Metal	145,535	12	8½	137,743	15	10
(c.) Other	365,167	5	9	331,141	14	9½
IV. Coin and Bullion	59,624	16	0	27,135	16	10½
Total	1,318,701	0	1½	1,393,528	12	1½

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901.

The following is a comparative statement of the chief articles of import:—

Articles.	Value.	
	1899-1900.	1900-1901.
Beef, pickled	£ 15,524	£ 17,751
Bicycles and tricycles	6,922	3,006
Boots and shoes	18,395	25,966
Brandy	1,855	1,918
Bread, crackers, &c.	2,937	2,020
Building materials*	10,151	2,164
Butter	18,233	15,575
Butter substitutes, lard, &c.	8,783	9,530
Cheese	6,020	5,648
Clothing	7,419	6,978
Coal	17,877	36,061
Cornmeal, &c.	4,540	2,834
Corn or maize	1,959	2,278
Drugs and apothecaries' wares	8,343	8,634
Earthen and glassware	4,478	5,273
Estate supplies†	18,873	4,587
Fish, dried	44,884	48,361
Flour	138,388	123,180
Gin	1,918	1,974
Grain and pulse	22,718	23,684
Haberdashery and millinery	19,111	19,845
Hardware and cutlery‡	35,278	26,920
Linen, cotton and woollen goods	139,254	156,673
Lumber, pine	27,025	25,056

* Galvanized Sheets, now on Specific List, were included in 1899-1900.

† Bags and Sacks, now on Specific List, were included in 1899-1900.

‡ Bolts and Nuts, Nails, Chains, &c., now on Specific List, included in 1899-1900.

*Imports—cont.*BRITISH
GUYANA,
1900-1901.
—

Articles.	Value.	
	1899-1900.	1900-1901.
	£	£
Malt liquor	17,915	20,066
Manures	88,121	100,927
Meats	6,884	7,582
Milk, condensed	6,151	4,453
Oats	9,210	9,945
Oil, petroleum	9,837	11,870
Oil, other	11,130	20,985
Pork, pickled	34,055	46,138
Potatoes	13,333	11,730
Rice	99,342	79,512
Soap, common	9,912	14,761
Sugar machinery	67,019	36,312
Other machinery	6,392	41,056
Tobacco, leaf	8,977	7,264
Tobacco, manufactured	6,823	7,770
Whisky	6,651	6,270
Wines	4,840	5,125

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901.

A similar comparison is annexed as regards

Exports.

Articles.	Value.					
	1899-1900.			1900-1901.		
	Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	British, Foreign and other Colonial Produce and Manufacture.	Total.	Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	British, Foreign and other Colonial Produce and Manufacture.	Total.
L Live Animals, Food, Drinks and Narcotics.	£ s. d. 1,336,084 10 8½	£ s. d. 34,044 19 7	£ s. d. 1,370,129 10 3½	£ s. d. 1,443,839 9 2	£ s. d. 108,364 13 8	£ s. d. 1,547,204 2 10
II Raw Materials—						
(a) Textile						
(b) Metal	26,429 3 11	2,128 6 4	28,557 10 3	43,329 8 8	5,078 6 6	48,407 14 6
(c) Other	—	—	—	55 0 7½	6,291 17 5	6,346 18 0½
III. Manufactured Articles—						
(a) Textile	—	11,531 3 8½	11,531 3 8½	—	11,836 10 0½	11,836 10 0½
(b) Metal	11,846 14 7½	23,397 11 5	35,244 6 0½	15,605 17 6	13,705 9 11	29,311 7 5
(c) Other	414,626 12 9½	67,870 16 7½	482,497 9 5	395,083 17 7	32,215 13 11½	426,299 11 6½
IV. Coin and Bullion ...						
Total	1,788,987 2 0½	138,972 17 8	1,927,959 19 8½	1,895,918 12 10½	172,492 11 6	2,068,406 4 4½

Taking local produce alone and dividing it under its principal heads the following results are obtained:—

BRITISH
GUAYANA,
1900-1901

Local Produce.

Articles.	1899-1900.		1900-1901.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sugar Tons.	84,782	£ 1,101,754	94,745	£ 1,127,457
Rum Galls.	3,384,361	208,898	4,023,828	299,392
Molasses Galls.	385,764	20,092	230,063	12,371
Timber Cub. feet	170,632	11,234	287,640	18,208
Shingles No.	3,278,975	2,851	2,863,150	2,642
Ballata Lbs.	237,824	12,281	425,371	19,586
Bullion (Raw Gold) Oms.	112,823	414,627	108,522	395,084
Hides No.	6,294	1,662	5,441	1,726
Cattle Head.	628	1,634	756	2,509
Charcoal Bags.	57,818	6,666	65,593	7,336
Cocoa Lbs.	124,001	3,297	16,898	509

Treating the figures for foreign produce in the same way, we have:—

Foreign Produce.

Articles.	1899-1900.		1900-1901.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Beef (pickled) ... Brls.	1,202	£ 2,554	517	£ 1,169
Fish (dried) ... Cwt.	4,381	3,955	3,674	3,134
Flour Brls.	13,726	10,824	9,069	7,853
Machinery... ..	—	226	—	1,973
Malt Liquor	—	993	—	1,250
Onions Lbs.	293,542	1,370	448,737	1,754
Pork Brls.	789	1,571	401	1,082

BRITISH
GUAYANA,
1900-1901.

Foreign Produce—cont.

Articles.	1899-1900.		1900-1901.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Pulse Lbs.	334,764	£ 1,447	323,227	£ 1,212
Rice Lbs.	615,126	2,684	202,303	867
Old Metal Lbs.	6,769,024	11,138	216,454	2,913
„ Iron Tons.	—	—	2,953	4,495

The Sugar Crop of the Colony amounted to 94,745 tons, as against 84,782 for 1899-1900. The market conditions during the year were not unfavourable, and prices, as may be gathered from the subjoined figures, were somewhat in advance of the previous year:—

—	1899-1900.	1900-1901.
Sugar, vacuum pan, sold in the United Kingdom, per ton.	£ s. d. 13 10 10	£ s. d. 13 15 0
Sugar, refining, sold in the United States, per ton.	11 13 4	11 17 6
Sugar, Molasses... ..	9 7 6	9 11 8
Rum, per puncheon	8 0 5	10 8 4
Molasses, vacuum pan, per puncheon of 100 gals. yellow V.P.	4 15 10	5 9 4½
Molasses, Muscovado Grocery ...	4 7 6	5 6 3

The total Imports and Exports for the last five years are as follows:—

Imports.

Year.	Amount.
1896-97	£ 1,341,709
1897-98	1,282,975
1898-99	1,371,412
1899-1900	1,318,701
1900-1901	1,395,529

Exports.

Year.	Exports.		
	Colonial Produce.	British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce.	Total.
	£	£	£
1896-97	1,792,648	106,808	1,899,457
1897-98	1,687,829	95,935	1,783,764
1898-99	1,673,013	102,678	1,775,691
1899-1900	1,788,987	138,972	1,927,959
1900-1901	1,895,914	172,492	2,068,406

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901.

The figures above quoted show a considerable increase in the export trade of the Colony for the year of report, Colony produce being responsible for £106,927 of this increase, as against £33,520 to the credit of other produce.

The Imports of the past year were derived from the following sources:—

Imports.			Amount.
			£
United Kingdom			637,020
British Possessions... ..			191,578
United States			396,111
Foreign Countries			46,497
Transit Trade			86,323
Total			1,393,529

The produce of the Colony, exported during the year, was distributed as follows:—

Exports.			Amount.
			£
To United Kingdom			936,976
„ British Colonies			47,547
„ United States			884,165
„ Foreign Countries			27,226
Total			1,895,914

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901

The total trade of the Colony for the year was divided in the following proportions:—

	Per Cent.
United Kingdom	48·05
British Possessions... ..	7·39
United States	42·
Foreign Countries	2·56

During the past five years the import trade from the United States has reached the following amounts:—

Year.	Amount.
	£
1896-7	299,751
1897-8	341,738
1898-9	381,356
1899-1900	376,321
1900-1901	396,111

The export of Sugar to the United States in the same period was:—

Year.	Tons.
1896-7	75,672
1897-8	69,194
1898-9	78,609
1899-1900	68,422
1900-1901	76,216

The arrangement with the United States of America for a reciprocal tariff between that country and British Guiana under which cane sugar, fresh vegetables and kaolin entering the United States from this Colony will obtain a rebate of duty to the extent of 12½ per cent. had not, at the date of this report, been brought into operation, the time allowed for its ratification by the Senate having been extended.

MINES, MANUFACTURES, FISHERIES AND AGRICULTURE.

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901.

The Gold Industry showed an increased out-put for the year of 1,313 ounces.

The movement which began in the previous year in the direction of dredging the rivers and creeks was continued. On the Barima River a large Dredger is in course of erection, and smaller ones are on order.

Preparations on a large scale were commenced at Omai on the Essequibo, for obtaining alluvial gold by a system of Hydraulic Elevators into which the pay dirt is forced by a large pump, the water supply for which will be obtained by damming the Omai Creek and forming a large Reservoir. Should this experiment prove successful, it will have a most important and beneficial effect on the Mining Industry of the Colony.

The amount of Ballata collected during the year was almost double that of the previous year. Large tracts of virgin bullet tree forest were discovered, and this Industry is in a very healthy condition at present.

Diamonds in considerable quantities were found, principally in the Mazaruni District, though a few were found in the Potaro, and there is every sign of this Industry developing in the future, as more modern methods of working are employed. Generally speaking, the mineral resources of the Colony appear to be receiving considerable attention.

A complete Handbook showing the results of the Geological Survey of the gold bearing regions accompanied by suitable maps, is now in course of preparation by Professor J. B. Harrison, the Government Geologist, to whom the Colony is indebted in this connection.

The following is a comparative statement of the gold output for the last five years:—

Year.					Ozs.
1896-7	...	...	...	...	127,479
1897-8	...	...	...	...	121,490
1898-9	...	...	...	...	113,114
1899-1900	...	...	...	...	112,789
1900-1901	...	...	...	...	114,102

The Sugar crop of the Colony for the year amounted to 94,745 tons, as against 84,782 tons for the previous year.

The scheme of experimental Cane Cultivation was developed and extended during the year by the aid of the Imperial Grant-in-Aid to the Colony, and of a special vote by the Combined Court.

BRITISH
GUAYANA,
1900-1901

The Rice crop suffered severely from the prolonged dry weather, and most of the grain reaped was consumed by the growers—but little comparatively being put on the market. The Industry, however, seems to be now well established, and nearly all the land taken up on the banks of the Mahaica and Mahaicony Creeks is planted in Rice.

A course of lectures on Botany and Agricultural Chemistry was given to the Teachers of Elementary Schools by Messrs. Waby, of the Botanic Gardens, and Kaufmann of the Government Laboratory. Blackie's Tropical Readers were introduced into some of the schools, and a grant paid for all the scholars who could answer questions on the subject matter. The result has been on the whole encouraging.

Land Grants and General Value of Land.

The first Crown Lands Regulations after the apprenticeship following on Emancipation were framed in 1839. No lot of less than 100 acres could be obtained under them, and the upset price of the land was fixed at £1 per acre; in addition to this there was the heavy cost of Survey. Under these Regulations, which would almost seem to have been designed to keep the small man out, it is not surprising to find that only some twenty-two grants of land were made.

In 1861, Regulations were framed fixing the price per acre at £2 1s. 8d. These remained in force till 1873, when the scope of the Regulations was increased, but the price of land was unaffected. In 1887 it was enacted that forest-lands could be sold at £1 0s. 10d. per acre, but land other than forest land which was more than ten miles from any public road could not be sold for less than £2 1s. 8d. per acre. The old minimum limit of 100 acres remained, as did also the heavy fees for survey, &c.

The small man had no chance, and only two grants were issued between 1885 and 1890 in which latter year there was further legislation on more liberal lines. So matters continued till 1898, when, as the result of yet further legislation, there were issued one hundred and forty-four grants as against thirty-seven in the whole of the fifty years ending with 1890. It is satisfactory to be able to record that the progress indicated above continues, and that under all heads the revenue collected by the Government Land Department during the past year is in excess of that for the previous year. Absolute grants, comprising an area of 11,314 acres, were issued, as compared with 10,925 acres in 1899-1900.

As regards the main cultivation of the Colony, no Sugar Estate was sold or abandoned, but some amalgamation of Estates took place. The question of cane farming has received, and is receiving, a good deal of attention, and there seems to be little doubt but that there is in this direction a way open for the small cultivator to grow cane, to his own advantage and to the advantage of the Sugar Manufacturer.

SHIPPING.

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901

The Number, Tonnage and Nationality of Steam and Sailing Vessels entering at the Ports of Entry in the Colony during the past year will be found in subjoined schedule:—

Nationality.	Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British	163	196,431	380	28,334	543	224,765
French	49	17,890	1	1	50	17,891
Dutch... ..	76	52,566	197	976	273	53,542
Norwegian	21	24,989	15	6,330	36	31,319
German	8	7,932	—	—	8	7,932
American	1	1,225	27	15,224	28	16,449
Portuguese	—	—	4	1,057	4	1,057
Russian	—	—	6	1,984	6	1,984
Spanish	—	—	1	150	1	150
Venezuelan	—	—	35	50	35	50
Total	318	301,033	666	54,106	984	355,139

The Number and Tonnage of Vessels entering and clearing from the Ports of Georgetown, New Amsterdam, Springlands, and Barima respectively, during the same period were as follows:—

Ports.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Georgetown	503	350,542	504	351,188
New Amsterdam	5	1,954	6	1,146
Springlands	441	2,593	440	2,405
Barima and Morawhanna	35	50	35	50
Total	984	355,139	985	354,789

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901.

The Number and Tonnage of Vessels entering and clearing from the Ports of the Colony during each of the past five years were:—

Year.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1896-97 	627	293,032	629	295,064
1897-98 	607	304,428	625	316,770
1898-99 	609	323,775	628	324,933
1899-1900 	691	332,502	680	320,973
1900-1901 	984	355,139	985	354,789

LEGISLATION.

The year was fruitful of legislation, no less than forty-three Ordinances having been passed. Of these, No. 8 is interesting as withdrawing from circulation the Old Dutch Silver Coins, such as guilders, half guilders, &c.

The question of regulating Seamen's Lodging Houses received attention, and provision was made for their Registration and for inspection by the Shipping Master.

The Immigration Laws were amended as regards the provisions dealing with repatriation.. The immigrant desiring to return to India on completion of the term of indenture and residence is now required to pay, if a male, one half instead of one fourth, and if a female, one third instead of one sixth, of the cost of the return passage. Provision was also made for the administration and control of Village Settlements of East Indian Immigrants; but no active operations were undertaken thereunder, and it has since been found necessary further to amend the law in this direction.

The necessity for amending the Law of Insolvency and bringing it into line with the English law on the subject had long been recognised, and by Ordinance No. 29 this object was attained, and the law is now substantially similar to that of England, with the modifications necessary, having regard to local conditions.

The Contempt of Court Ordinance, 1900, was passed in pursuance of instructions from the Secretary of State, with a view to making the Law of Contempt of Court as nearly as possible uniform in the West Indian Colonies, and the law on the subject in

British Guiana, Barbados and the Leeward Islands is now practically the same.

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901

In order to facilitate the acquisition of Crown Lands and to prevent the locking up for indefinite periods of the second depths of Estates at the pleasure of the owners of the first depths, certain Regulations of their late High Mightinesses the States of Holland, passed on the 24th July, 1792, and certain other local Regulations, were repealed as from 30th June, 1901, and what might be termed a pre-emption right without time limit to the holder of the first depth, to acquire the second depth of his estate, was withdrawn.

By virtue of the provisions of the Public Loan Ordinance, 1896, Amendment Ordinance 1900, opportunity is given to the smaller capitalist to obtain a safe investment for his money—it being rendered possible to obtain bonds for sums ranging from £10 upwards.

The financial condition of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund had been receiving attention for some time, and as a result it was decided that the fund should be closed, preserving under certain conditions the rights of existing contributors and beneficiaries. As a preliminary, Ordinance No. 41 was passed, closing the fund to new comers as from the 22nd December.

Towards the end of the year a measure was passed which may have an important bearing on the future of the Colony, the Mining Ordinance of 1887 being amended to make provision for the granting of larger tracts of land, in respect of licences or concessions, than was allowed under the previously existing law. Power was also given to the Governor-in-Council to grant, with the approval of the Secretary of State, permission to those in position to do so, to occupy and test the value of Crown Lands without concession in respect thereof being first obtained.

EDUCATION.

There are at present 212 Primary schools having 27,512 children on the books with an average daily attendance of 16,397, maintained at a cost of £24,353 2s. 7½d., distributed as follows—

	£	s.	d.	PerCent.
Administration and Inspection...	1,831	5	0	= 7·51
Stationery, Office, and Miscellaneous.	419	13	3½	= 1·72
Scholarships and Prizes...	212	14	2	= ·87
Agricultural Instruction of Teachers.	225	16	3	= ·92
Grants-in-Aid	21,663	13	11	= 88·95
Total	£24,353	2	7½	

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901.

Not less than nine-tenths of the grant must be paid to the teachers and assistant teachers. The remaining tenth may be retained by the manager for providing a school-house, and furnishing it. All the schools, with the exception of 14 estate schools, are denominational.

The sum of five shillings and nine pence is paid for each pass in reading, writing, arithmetic; four shillings and two pence for each pass in grammar, geography, or agriculture and sewing; and one pound eleven shillings and threepence for each scholar at an industrial school who makes 100 attendances. First class certificated teachers receive, in addition, a salary of £50 per annum; 2nd class, £37 10s.; and 3rd class, £20.

Secondary Education is provided for in the case of boys by the Government Institution known as Queen's College, maintained by an Annual vote of the Combined Court. The Staff consists of a Principal, of a Second Master, both of whom must be graduates in honours of one of the Universities of the United Kingdom, and of three Assistant Masters. There is also a Science Department in charge of a "Professor of Chemistry," with an Assistant Demonstrator. The average attendance of pupils for the past ten years has been 97.

There are a few private Secondary Schools in the Colony, the oldest established being the Catholic Grammar School, in connection with the Roman Catholic Cathedral. The total average attendance at these may be estimated at 200.

There is a fairly complete system of Exhibitions and Scholarships. Four Government Primary Scholarships are competed for every year by boys under 12 from Government or private Primary Schools. They are tenable for four years at any Secondary School approved of by the Governor. There is also a Mitchell Scholarship, established by private bequest, of the annual value of £15, tenable for four years. And finally, there is the Guiana Scholarship awarded annually on the result of the Cambridge Senior Local Examination. The Candidate is required to take 1st Class honours with the mark of distinction in either Classics, Mathematics, Natural Science, or Modern Languages. The Scholarship is tenable at any of the chartered Universities of the United Kingdom, or at any Medical or Legal School, or any other recognised professional or scientific institution in the United Kingdom. The Candidate may also become apprenticed or articulated to any duly qualified person for the purpose of obtaining a professional qualification as a Civil or Mechanical or Electrical Engineer. The value of this Scholarship is £200 for three years, or £150 for five years in the case of a medical student.

Georgetown is a Centre for the Cambridge University Local Examinations, and for those of Edinburgh and of the College of Preceptors. The Matriculation and other Ordinary Degree Examinations of the University of London may also be taken in the Colony.

The secondary education of Girls is left mainly to private enterprise. There are several girls' schools doing excellent work.

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901

The Government encourages them by giving annually two scholarships for girls from Primary Schools, tenable at any secondary school approved by the Governor; and a Mitchell Scholarship is also awarded annually.

Prizes in money are given to girls who do well in the Cambridge Local Examinations, and the Guiana Scholarship is open to them as well as to boys.

Industrial, Technical and Agricultural Schools.

Under Ordinances No. 1 of 1852 and No. 1 of 1879 provision is made for the "Establishment of Industrial and Reformatory Schools and for the care and education of destitute and vagrant children," and for the "Establishment and Regulation of a School for the Instruction and training of vagrant boys and youthful male offenders."

At the institution established under the first mentioned Ordinance there were, on the 31st March, 1899, 92 boys and 42 girls. In addition to reading, writing, and arithmetic, such of the children as are physically fit are taught to cultivate the grass fields and flower and kitchen gardens.

At the Onderneeming Reformatory School, established under Ordinance 1 of 1879, the daily average of inmates was 134 as against 147 in the previous year. Some of the boys are trained as carpenters, bakers and tailors, and in the management of farm stock, but the majority are employed in the cultivation of the land.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

There are five public hospitals and two asylums in the Colony, where those who cannot afford to pay receive gratuitous treatment. There are also dispensary hospitals in the Arakaka and Potaro gold districts, both in charge of qualified dispensers.

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901.

The number of cases treated and the work done generally in the several hospitals may be gathered from the following:—

	Remaining on 1st April, 1900.	Admitted in 1900-1901.	Discharged.			Died.	Daily average in 1900-1901.	Percentage of deaths on total treated.	Percentage of admissions dying within 72 hours of admission.
			Cured.	Relieved.	Not Relieved.				
Georgetown ...	452	7,962	1,546	4,944	577	822	477.	9.7	3.1
New Amsterdam ...	141	2,148	599	1,111	198	254	131.	11.	3.5
Suddie... ..	32	681	273	239	76	81	36.07	11.3	3.9
Bartica ...	7	201	114	59	3	29	5.86	13.9	4.9
Morawhanna ...	16	552	371	136	19	25	17.	4.4	1.9
Lunatic Asylum ...	656	201	65	5	—	67	699.	7.8	—
Leper Asylum ...	400	76	—	—	—	46	402.	9.6	—
Total ...	1,704	11,821	2,968	6,494	870	1,324	—	9.7	—

Exclusive of the above, 54,033 received treatment as out-patients at the several hospitals.

*Leper Asylum.*BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901.

There is nothing of importance to record under this head. The system of segregation is now enforced with efficiency, the necessary buildings having been provided during the previous year.

The discipline on the whole was good—especially so as regards the female inmates. The fact that the admission rate shows a downward rather than an upward tendency is a matter for congratulation; the figures are:—Admitted during 1899-1900, 100. During 1900-1901, 96.

Work, both in and out-door, is steadily carried on. Almost everything required by the inmates is turned out by them. The daily cost per head, 14.1 cents, is a trifle higher than last year.

Poor Houses.

In November, 1901, the Alms House in Berbice was closed; the inmates being transferred to the Georgetown Institution or handed over to the care of their friends. The buildings are in course of removal for re-erection at the Lunatic Asylum. By this arrangement a considerable economy has been effected; the votes being reduced by some £2,100.

On 31st March, 1901, there were 615 inmates at the Alms House. Of these 438 were males and 177 females.

The total expenditure for the year was £5,172.

In addition to the above, there was an expenditure of £6,517 on out-door relief throughout the Colony.

SAVINGS BANK.

On the 31st December, 1900, the amount at credit of depositors in the Government Savings Banks controlled by the Treasury was £239,184 as against £248,351 in the previous year.

It may be noted that though the amount at credit of depositors is less by some £9,100, the number of depositors is greater by 239 than in the previous year.

The number of Post Office Savings Banks remained at 27.

The total amount at credit of depositors on the 31st December, 1900, was £46,372, as against £43,614 on the corresponding date in the previous year, being an increase of, in round numbers, £2,700.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Prisons.

The total number of prisoners committed was 5,564, as against 6,068 in 1899-1900. Of these 4,334 were committed for purposes of penal imprisonment. The daily average number of prisoners including convicts in the prisons of the Colony, was 577.02 as compared with 614.23 in the previous year.

BRITISH
GUAYANA,
1900-1901.

There were in custody in all the Prisons on 31st March, 552 prisoners, viz.:—159 convicts, 365 ordinary male prisoners, and 28 female prisoners. The total number in custody on the 31st March of the previous year was 570.

The total number of deaths was 9, as against 4; and there were 3 executions as against 2 in the previous year.

The total amount expended was £14,787, as compared with £14,819 in the preceding year.

The average gross cost per head for convicts and ordinary prisoners in all the Prisons was £26 13s. 1½d., the nett cost being £18 1s. 11d., as compared with £24 13s. 1½d. and £16 4s. 0½d., respectively, in the previous year.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The Criminal Statistics for the year are normal. As compared with those of the previous 4 years, the summary convictions for offences against the person, for prædial larceny and for offences against property other than prædial larceny show a slight decrease; but for "other offences" the number of convictions are considerably lower than in either of the previous four years.

The total number of offences reported to the Police was 9,074 as against 7,111. The apprehensions and summonses are practically the same. Convictions in the Supreme Court totalled 92 against 131.

In Summary Conviction cases, fines were paid in 5,280; 3,351 chose the alternative of imprisonment, and peremptory imprisonment was imposed in 1,365 cases. There were 135 sentences of whipping for prædial larceny, and for offences against the person.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.—The population of the Colony on the 31st December, 1900, was estimated at 294,943, as compared with 287,288 at the same date in the previous year. The birth rate compares favourably with that for 1899-1900, being 10,817 as against 8,275; and showing 2,542 more births than the average for the previous ten years.

Public Health.—The public health of the Colony during the year was fairly good. No epidemic of severe type prevailed. There were no cases of yellow fever or small pox, though these diseases were said to exist in some of the ports of Brazil. The mortality is returned at 26 per thousand, as against 29 for the previous year. The total number of deaths is less by 879 than in 1899-1900 and less by 1,835 than the average for the previous ten years.

CLIMATE.

There is nothing of interest to record under this head.

BRITISH
GILFARNA
1896-1901.

RAINFALL.

The records kept at the Botanic Gardens show the rainfall in each of the last five years to have been:—

Year.			Inches.
1896-97	...	...	78.53
1897-98	...	...	123.61
1898-99	...	...	105.94
1899-1900	...	...	63.97
1900-1901	...	...	64.54

TEMPERATURE.

The mean temperature for the year was 81° Fahr., the mean maximum being 88° in the month of September, and the mean minimum 86° in December and January.

Direction of Wind.

Out of 720 records taken, 413 were N.E.—170 E.—31 N.E. by E.—25 S.E.—71 calm.—14 S.—3 S.E. by E.—2 W.—1 N.

Force of Wind.

The year mean average taken at 9 a.m. was .8.

The year mean average taken at 5 p.m. was .6.

The method employed to obtain the force of the wind is by sensation or by estimation.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The statistics under this head are of a normal nature, showing, generally speaking, an upward tendency. There is an estimated increase of 41,000 in the number of articles posted. The export of raw gold through the medium of the Parcel Post continued in increased volume, Bullion to the value of £211,377 having been so shipped, as against £166,226 the previous year.

BRITISH
GUAYANA,
1900-1901.

The number of telegrams received for transmission was 11,216 less than in 1899-1900, but the value of paid messages was greater by £249.

The telephone service, which otherwise worked fairly well, was interfered with by the induction caused by the operations of the Electric Company, and negotiations are proceeding with the Company in this connection.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

There are no Imperial Troops now stationed in the Colony. There is a Militia Force and a Semi-Military Police Force.

Militia.—The strength on the 31st March was 417, with a reserve of 305. There are 4 Companies of Infantry and 1 of Artillery. The total expenditure for the year, including the Band, was £5,350.

Police.—The total strength, all ranks, on 31st March was 717.

There is an Inspector-General, 1 Chief, and 3 County Inspectors, and 5 District Inspectors, 7 Sub-Inspectors; an Adjutant and Musketry Inspector; a Pay and Quarter Master.

The total expenditure on the Force was £49,883, including £3,067 for Fire Brigade purposes.

Rural Constabulary.—At the end of the year (31st March) this force had a strength of 1,191 Non-Commissioned Officers and Men.

IMMIGRATION.

Immigration was maintained, and 4,470 Immigrants from India were introduced.

1,017 Immigrants returned to India during the same period, taking with them some £7,165 and Jewellery to the value of £1,166.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

In the report for the year 1899-1900, the settlement of the long contested question of the Boundary line between the Colony and the United States of Venezuela was alluded to, and it now falls to note that the finding of the Arbitration Tribunal has been given practical effect to by the appointment of Commissioners representing the Colony and Venezuela, to demarcate the boundary line. Good progress has been made, and it is, perhaps, superfluous to say that the representatives of the Colony and of the neighbouring State have worked, and are working, in perfect accord.

It will be remembered that in January, 1900, the Train services on the West Coast line and on the extension line on the East Coast were suspended owing to difficulties which had unfortunately arisen as between the Government and the Railway Company. It is satisfactory to be able to record that by dint of careful negotiations a way was found out of the difficulty, and in the following July the services were re-started and have continued ever since. A final settlement of all matters in connection with these Railways has not yet, however, been reached.

BRITISH
GUIANA,
1900-1901.

As regards the general circumstances of the Colony and the condition of its people, there is not much to be said. Contrasted with the previous year there is not much change perceptible. The movement indicative of a wider interest in the cultivation of products other than sugar, and of a more general disposition to regard the soil as the natural field of employment for the majority of the people of the Colony continues, and, taking things all round, it may be said that the year closed with fair promise for the future.

J. HAMPDEN KING,

Assistant Government Secretary

Guiana Public Buildings,

Georgetown, Demerara,

26th November, 1901.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E
1902.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 339.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

REPORT FOR 1900.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 310.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1901.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1901.

[Cd. 788-9.] *Price 2d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
317	Jamaica... ..	1899-1900
318	British Guiana	"
319	Christmas Island	1900
320	British Solomon Islands	1899-1900
321	Lagos	1900
322	Bermuda... ..	"
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados	"
327	Bahamas... ..	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
336	British New Guinea	1899-1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand... ..	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas... ..	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific... ..	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas... ..	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies... ..	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong (New Territory)	Report on Operations, 1900

No. 339.

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 310.)

GOVERNOR SIR D. WILSON to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,

Belize,

3rd October, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Report on the Blue Book for 1900, by Mr. F. J. Newton, C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

D. WILSON,

Governor

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF BRITISH HONDURAS FOR THE YEAR 1900.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The following statements shew the Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for the years 1899 and 1900, under each head of revenue and service respectively :—

Revenue.

Head of Revenue.	1899.	1900.
1. Customs	\$ 138,121.56	\$ 170,251.52
2. Light Dues	6,805.75	5,921.34
3. Internal Taxation	60,882.42	64,451.08
4. Revenues of Government Property ...	10,025.26	10,515.65
5. Court Fines, Fees of Office, Payments for Specific Services and Reimbursements in Aid.	21,363.29	20,392.19
6. Postal Revenue	6,635.19	11,054.87
7. Interest	850.86	2,255.16
8. Reimbursements on account of Belize Town and Harbour Improvements.	533.96	200.16
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	2,013.34	1,765.79
Total Ordinary Revenue ...	247,231.63	286,807.51
10. Sale of Crown Lands	3,226.40	2,920.38
Total	250,458.03	289,727.89

Expenditure.

Head of Expenditure.	1899.	1900.
1. Public Debt	\$ 11,121.91	\$ 11,134.44
2. Pensions	4,875.61	5,201.51
3. Governor	11,698.00	11,679.19
Carried forward ...	27,695.52	28,015.14

*Expenditure—continued.*BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

Head of Expenditure.	1899.	1900.
Brought forward ...	\$ 27,695.52	\$ 28,015.14
4. Colonial Secretary's Department ...	8,565.95	8,836.15
5. Treasury and Custom House ...	15,391.60	15,026.53
6. Audit Department ...	2,259.71	2,066.87
7. Post Office ...	23,991.29	24,072.69
8. Judicial ...	13,542.17	13,114.14
9. District Commissioners ...	15,513.73	15,351.22
10. Constabulary ...	35,296.75	28,608.41
11. Police ...	24,232.36	23,979.62
12. Belize Volunteer Force ...	2,563.63	1,587.45
13. Prisons ...	13,776.29	12,402.26
14. Medical Department ...	26,578.42	25,154.11
15. Central Board of Health and Quarantine	387.34	78.68
16. Education... ..	13,693.98	13,191.53
17. Ecclesiastical ...	437.40	437.40
18. Surveyor-General's Department ...	8,751.78	7,489.49
19. Botanic Station ...	1,799.51	1,742.18
20. Miscellaneous ...	4,486.44	3,204.36
21. Lighthouses, &c....	4,065.77	3,569.20
22. Colonial Engineer's Department ...	3,099.34	3,195.33
23. Public Works Recurrent ...	13,055.46	11,345.17
Total Ordinary Expenditure ...	259,184.44	242,467.93
24. Public Works Extraordinary ...	3,228.95	3,733.15
25. Belize Town and Harbour Improve- ments.	—	—
Total	262,413.39	246,201.08

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

Revenue.

The receipts from Customs show a marked increase owing to the raising of the tariff during a portion of the year, and also to the fact of the value and volume of dutiable imports having been greater than that of the preceding year.

The quantity of mahogany exported was also exceptional, and is noticed later on.

Expenditure.

The expenditure has been kept well within the approved limits, and in the majority of the items savings have been effected even on the reduced amounts of the estimates.

The following is a statement of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for the five years 1896 to 1900 inclusive, with notes of points of special interest attached:—

Revenue.

Year.	Amount.	Remarks.
	\$	
1896	312,686	Includes \$10,000 Silver Coin and \$14,925 Export Duty on Logwood.
1897	314,017	Includes \$20,000 Silver Coin, \$7,170 Export Duty on Logwood, and \$1,663 Casual Revenue.
1898	274,690	Includes \$1,250 Surplus Stock Savings Bank Investments, \$2,041 Insurance on Stores Lost at Sea, \$1,009 Refund of Cost of Survey on Lands.
1899	250,458	Includes \$13,342 Export Duty on Mahogany and Logwood from July.
1900	289,727	Includes the same Export Duty as in 1899, amounting to \$22,251, and an increase from 10 to 12½ per cent. on ad valorem goods from the 23rd June.

Expenditure.

Year.	Amount.	Remarks.
	\$	
1896	269,877	Includes \$7,086 Railway Survey.
1897	322,990	Includes \$3,385 Railway Survey, \$730 Telegraph Survey, and \$9,766 cost of Coinage, \$3,609 Belize Town and Harbour Improvements, \$15,228 Naval and Military.
1898	301,413	Includes \$36,865 on Roads, Bridges, and New Works.
1899	262,413	Includes \$3,228 for Official Residence at the Cayo
1900	246,201	Includes \$2,229 for New Wing to the Belize Hospital.

(B.) IMPORTANT CHANGES IN TAXATION.

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

Owing to the decline of the Revenue in the early part of the year it was found necessary to amend the tariff by transferring certain important articles of consumption, such as bread, salted fish, Indian corn, rice, salt, and others from the free list to the list of ad valorem goods, the rate in respect of which was altered from 10 to 12½ per cent. The Ordinance effecting this change came into operation on the 23rd June.

(C.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The position of the Colony at the end of 1900 in respect to its Assets and Liabilities is shewn in the following table:—

—	1899.	1900.
Assets	\$ 61,213.98	\$ 108,470.81
Liabilities	48,314.27	52,044.09
Excess of Assets	12,899.71	56,426.72

(D.) PUBLIC DEBT.

The following is a statement of the Loan Debt of the Colony on 31st December 1900:—

Loan.	—	Dollars.
Loan of 1886...	5 per cent. Debentures	27,875
Loan of 1888...	4½ per cent. Debentures, £9,000 @ \$4.86 ...	43,740
Loan of 1893...	4½ per cent. Debentures, £20,000 @ \$4.86 ...	97,200
	Total	168,815

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

Provision for payment has been made by the investment of the Sinking Funds as set forth in the next table:—

	£	s.	d.		\$
Loan of 1886—repayable 1916 :					
New South Wales 3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock.	2,141	14	4		
South Australia 3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock.	860	9	6		
Western Australia 3 per cent. Inscribed Stock.	341	0	11		
Natal 3 per cent. Inscribed Stock	315	13	7		
Lagos Scrip	155	4	1		
	3,814	2	5	@ \$4.86	18,536.62
Loan of 1888—repayable 1918 :					
Cape of Good Hope 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock.	220	10	6		
New South Wales 3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock.	767	8	6		
Victoria 3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock.	875	2	4		
Western Australia 3 per cent. Inscribed Stock.	401	12	5		
Natal 3 per cent. Inscribed Stock	383	9	1		
Lagos Scrip	151	18	9		
	2,800	1	7	@ \$4.86	13,608.38
Loan of 1893—repayable 1923 :					
Queensland 3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock.	454	8	9		
Trinidad 3 per cent. Inscribed Stock.	458	2	1		
Victoria 3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock.	1,020	11	0		
Queensland 3 per cent. Inscribed Stock.	288	0	6		
Cape of Good Hope 3 per cent. Inscribed Stock.	410	8	6		
Lagos Scrip	200	0	0		
Trinidad Scrip	241	18	4		
	3,073	9	5	@ \$4.86	14,937.07
Total Sinking Funds ...					47,082.07

(E.) CURRENCY.

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

The standard of currency is the gold dollar of the United States of America, the gold coins of the United States being legally current at their respective values. The British sovereign and half-sovereign are legal tender for \$4.86 and \$2.43 respectively.

The subsidiary silver currency, coined specially for the Colony, amounts to \$100,000, and is made up as follows:—

Pieces.	Cents.	Dollars.
94,500	50	47,250
135,000	25	33,750
126,000	10	12,600
128,000	5	6,400
483,500	—	100,000

There is also a bronze cent piece, the amount in circulation being 150,000 pieces.

Under Ordinance No. 32 of 1894 currency notes of the following denominations have been issued:—

- One dollar.
- Two dollars.
- Five dollars.
- Ten dollars.
- Fifty dollars.
- One hundred dollars.

The amount of notes in circulation on the 31st December, 1900, was \$109,846; and against the notes issued the Commissioners of Currency hold in the Colony \$74,048, \$35,798 having been remitted for investment in England.

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

(F.) COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE REVENUE AND
EXPENDITURE OF THE SEVERAL BOARDS FOR THE
FIVE YEARS 1896 TO 1900 INCLUSIVE.

Belize.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1896	\$ 23,088	\$ 22,336
1897	22,902	22,534
1898	27,648	27,143
1899	27,200	28,312
1900	25,396	25,222

Corozal.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1896	\$ 3,718	\$ 4,482
1897	3,657	3,636
1898	3,592	3,678
1899	3,154	3,190
1900	3,100	2,998

Orange Walk.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1896	\$ 3,200	\$ 2,569
1897	3,492	3,340
1898	3,545	3,923
1899	2,602	4,132
1900	2,836	2,846

*Stann Creek (including Mullins River).*BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.
—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	\$	\$
1896	1,377	1,712
1897	2,221	1,801
1898	2,664	2,340
1899	2,578	1,023
1900	2,472	4,133

Toledo (Punta Gorda and Monkey River).

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	\$	\$
1896	739	698
1897	1,146	1,318
1898	1,319	1,192
1899	578	694
1900	1,590	1,753

Cayo.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	\$	\$
1896	754	388
1897	753	679
1898	717	931
1899	754	1,192
1900	492	428

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

(G.) DEBTS OF LOCAL BOARDS.

The Belize District Board is the only body having a recognised debt, which is met by an annual payment of \$2,399.64, being half the interest and sinking fund on the loans of 1886 and 1888.

The same Board is also indebted to the Government in the sum of \$3,900.60, being the balance of the cost of the new iron bridge over the Belize River. This amount is being paid off in a period of five years from 1898.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following tables give the value of the Imports and Exports of the Colony for the years 1896 to 1900 :—

Imports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	Colonies.	United States.	Other Countries.	Total Imports.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1896 ...	523,208	8,551	790,458	140,420	1,462,637
1897 ...	486,463	8,129	761,768	165,739	1,422,097
1898 ...	420,127	2,723	706,472	119,588	1,248,910
1899 ...	323,493	4,669	615,168	88,143	1,031,473
1900 ...	376,172	2,069	708,403	112,128	1,198,772

Exports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	Colonies.	United States.	Other Countries.	Total Exports.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1896 ...	760,522	—	312,997	305,082	1,378,601
1897 ...	769,867	56	238,187	396,279	1,404,387
1898 ...	853,173	531	214,327	214,562	1,282,593
1899 ...	860,378	—	245,864	172,375	1,278,617
1900 ...	613,565	—	352,358	334,642	1,300,565

The following is a statement of the quantity and value of the principal Exports of the Colony during the last five years :—

Article.	1896.		1897.		1898.		1899.		1900.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Mahogany ... Feet	2,769,676	186,682	6,777,382	403,270	7,630,252	471,279	6,499,168	378,675	7,994,378	438,589
Cedar ... "	33,639	1,873	234,736	12,251	316,113	15,401	351,149	25,456	400,611	19,714
Logwood ... Tons	34,539	803,636	29,682	671,492	23,579	499,223	24,098	550,569	20,521	432,986
Bananas ... Bunches	414,398	94,868	356,852	84,935	309,700	73,225	272,898	75,444	365,972	91,105
Plantains ... No.	985,325	9,685	1,110,550	9,735	939,300	7,509	1,506,750	12,498	2,106,306	17,995
Cocoanuts ... "	1,707,041	16,770	1,824,522	19,178	2,119,000	20,996	2,609,831	25,569	2,407,130	26,044

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

The values of mahogany and logwood in the above table are taken as follows:—

—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Mahogany... .. <i>per foot</i>	\$.6 $\frac{1}{2}$	\$.5 $\frac{9}{16}$	\$.6 $\frac{1}{2}$	\$.5 $\frac{1}{2}$	\$.5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Logwood <i>„ ton</i>	23.27	22.62	21.17	22.85	21.10

The most noticeable feature in the preceding tables is the very large quantity of mahogany exported, though it is to be feared that the value placed upon it in the Customs return is excessive. There is no doubt that a large proportion of inferior wood was brought out last year and sent home to London and Liverpool. Some of it is still unsold. At one clearance sale held in London last July nearly 5,000 logs, representing over 1,000,000 feet, were pronounced to be well sold at an average of 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. The wood was described as “of small size and low grade and condition,” and it seems unfortunate that it should have been sent out of the Colony at all.

The export of logwood shows a decline both in quantity and value.

The production of bananas and plantains has increased, and the fruit sold very readily during the latter part of the year—the result chiefly of the introduction of a new purchaser into the British Honduras field. The competition between Messrs Vaccaro Bros. and the United Fruit Company has, at any rate, temporarily raised prices, and it is hoped that sufficient fruit may be produced at the right seasons to induce both of these firms to continue their operations here.

(B.) MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

A few small sugar mills and rum stills are at work—about forty of the former and about twenty of the latter—chiefly in the districts of Corosal and Toledo; they mainly supply local requirements. A certain amount of rum is exported for consumption in the Central American Republics.

(C.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

The production of bananas, plantains, pineapples, india rubber, cacao and cocoanuts of varying quantity and quality still affords some ground for hoping that, along with the wood-cutting industries, an agricultural industry may in time be organized and developed through the large and generally fertile tracts of land

available for this purpose; but there is no progress in this direction to be reported in respect of the past year.

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

As regards the fruit production, the possibilities are considerable, provided that growers can undertake a regular and uniform supply of marketable fruit in return for efficient transportation and a reliable market.

The cultivation of the india rubber plant and the cacao is occupying attention, and invites the employment of capital from abroad with every prospect of success.

But in all cases where intelligent cultivation is required a difficulty in the labour supply is experienced.

(D.) LAND GRANTS AND VALUE OF LAND.

Grants.

During 1900, 1,367½ acres, in 30 sections, were sold, and realized \$2,920.38; 32 lots in the towns of Belize, Mullins River, and Monkey River were also disposed of.

Leases.

At the end of the year there were 18,426 acres of land in 457 sections on lease, including a pastoral lease of 3,179 acres. The amount paid for rents of Crown lands for the year was \$2,789.42, exclusive of \$1,516.98, rents of Crown lands in the towns of Stann Creek, Mullins River, Punta Gorda, and Monkey River, which are credited to local funds.

(E.) SHIPPING.

The following tables give the number of sailing ships and steamers entered and cleared during the past five years, and the number and tonnage of British, American, and Norwegian vessels entered and cleared respectively:—

Entered.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1896	391	35,882	185	132,317
1897	428	35,571	213	158,213
1898	409	32,037	209	151,295
1899	368	25,080	216	166,104
1900	338	24,371	214	146,546

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1896	378	38,628	184	132,239
1897	421	38,258	213	158,081
1898	401	30,214	208	150,338
1899	374	27,716	214	163,358
1900	320	22,919	214	146,261

Sailing Vessels—Entered.

Year.	British.		American.		Norwegian.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1896	181	9,289	19	873	47	16,597
1897	197	10,836	28	1,119	40	15,141
1898	179	10,309	28	472	30	11,959
1899	175	10,398	27	671	27	10,259
1900	124	8,617	51	990	26	10,334

Sailing Vessels—Cleared.

Year.	British.		American.		Norwegian.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1896	167	8,571	19	775	51	18,992
1897	198	12,201	28	1,153	42	15,668
1898	184	10,186	27	428	30	11,716
1899	177	10,376	29	677	31	11,796
1900	129	8,774	44	841	24	9,479

*Steamers—Entered.*BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

Year.			British.		American.		Norwegian.	
			No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1896	...	...	42	48,362	103	65,842	36	15,172
1897	...	...	52	68,956	103	65,462	55	23,613
1898	...	...	80	84,415	54	34,603	70	31,365
1899	...	...	51	69,222	106	66,804	57	27,429
1900	...	...	35	51,666	104	56,627	69	33,906

Steamers—Cleared.

Year.			British.		American.		Norwegian.	
			No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1896	...	...	41	48,413	103	65,742	36	15,146
1897	...	...	51	68,030	104	66,256	55	23,613
1898	...	...	79	83,533	54	34,663	70	31,392
1899	...	...	50	66,523	105	66,756	57	27,430
1900	...	...	36	51,423	103	56,586	69	35,904

III.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-one Ordinances were passed in 1900, of which four were Appropriation Ordinances; four (two being Ordinances amending the law relating to duties of Customs) have since been repealed and one was disallowed; of the rest, the following only appear to require notice in this report, viz. :—

- (a) Ordinance No. 13 (amended by Ordinance No. 21), which consolidates and amends the law relating to the licensing of certain trades and business in the town of Belize.

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900
—

- (b) Ordinance No. 14, which amends the Labour Law.
- (c) Ordinance No. 18, which amends the Marriage Law.
- (d) Ordinance No. 19, which amends the law relating to Pilotage, and
- (e) Ordinance No. 20, which regulates pensions, gratuities, and other allowances to be granted in respect of offices held in Her Majesty's Civil Service in this Colony.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Government grant in aid of education was again fixed at \$12,000 instead of \$14,500, and the necessary retrenchment was effected by the same method as that practised in 1899, viz., by a reduction at the rate of 15 per cent. of all grants payable to aided schools on the lines already laid down; the withdrawal of grants in respect of children under five—limiting the number of grant-aided schools and of pupil teachers to those already on the list, and the reduction of some small bonuses payable to teachers on the results of the annual examinations of their schools.

The good work done by the schools, which are under the management of a Board—chiefly ecclesiastical—and an Inspector, does not appear to have been impaired seriously by the reduction of the grant. The Inspector's report on them is complete and on the whole satisfactory, but it is to be regretted that the amount of school fees received is small and has been steadily on the decrease since 1896.

There is no school rate levied at present in the Colony.

The following tables furnish further details:—

Comparative Statement of Numbers, Attendances, and Contributions from 1896 to 1900.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Children on Register.	Average Daily Attendance.	Percentage of Average Attendance to Number on Register.	Average School Days.	Government Grants.	School Fees.	Voluntary Contribu- tions.	Grant per caput on Average Daily Attendance.
1896 ...	46	3,567	2,592	72·66	183	\$ 13,367·56	\$ 3,002·17	\$ 10,692·18	\$ 5·15
1897 ...	49	3,693	2,705	73·24	190	14,162·17	2,880·97	11,961·87	5·23
1898 ...	45	3,728	2,606	69·90	190	14,449·50	2,793·35	15,540·11	5·52
1899 ...	42	3,547	2,491	70·23	186	11,637·26	2,479·49	10,126·58	4·67
1900 ...	38	3,391	2,383	70·30	188	11,245·53	2,312·53	9,101·38	4·76

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

*Government Grants and School Fees as received by each
Denomination in 1900.*

Schools.	Total Government Grants.	Total School Fees.	Proportion of School Fees to Government Grants.
Church of England ...	\$ 2,882.53	\$ 676.21	4.26
Roman Catholic ...	4,104.74	710.14	5.78
Wesleyan ...	3,159.90	721.28	4.38
Baptist ...	914.62	122.35	7.47
Non-denominational ...	183.74	82.55	2.22
Totals ...	11,245.53	2,312.53	4.86

*Numbers of, and Attendance by, Children according to
Denominations in 1900.*

Schools.	Number of Children on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Total School Fees.	Receipt of School Fees per unit of Average Attendance.
Church of England	842	576	\$ 676.21	\$ 1.17
Roman Catholic ...	1,289	957	710.14	.74
Wesleyan ...	937	636	721.28	1.13
Baptist ...	254	172	122.35	.71
Non-denominational	69	42	82.55	1.96
Totals ...	3,391	2,383	2,312.53	.97

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS, ASYLUMS, AND POOR-HOUSES.

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

The remarkable shortcomings at the Belize Hospital, mentioned in Reports on the Blue Book for the last two years, are now being made good ; an additional wing is in course of erection, which will furnish space for a good female ward, besides operating room, private wards, pantries, bathrooms, &c.

The following table shews the number of patients under treatment in the hospital during 1900 :—

Institution.	Remained at beginning of 1900.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Remained at beginning of 1901.	Average Daily.
Belize	46	436	379	65	38	40.11
Corosol	11	100	101	8	2	6.01
Orange Walk ...	1	145	135	8	3	6.62
Belize :—						
Lunatic Asylum	34	8	3	—	39	37.37
Poor-house ...	17	14	8	2	21	20.54

SAVINGS BANKS.

There are six savings banks conducted by the Government—one in the chief town of each district. The savings bank at Belize was established in 1846, and had, at the end of the year 1900, 334 depositors.

The total amount at the credit of all depositors in the savings banks of the Colony at 31st December, 1900, was \$38,925.84 as against \$31,319.61 in 1899.

The rate of interest allowed is 3 per cent per annum.

The amount of invested funds is \$22,983.14.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

It may here be mentioned that there are eight duly registered Friendly Societies in Belize, with whom 426 members are recorded as having invested \$10,244.15 in addition to amounts held on current account to meet expenses and withdrawals.

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

(A.) POLICE.

There are two forces in the Colony :—

1. The British Honduras Constabulary, consisting of one inspector, one sub-inspector, and about 48 non-commissioned officers and men, of whom about 18 are mounted. It is stationed in the northern district, with headquarters at Corosal, an officer's detachment at Orange Walk, and a small detachment at the Cayo.

This force is now being gradually absorbed into the police.

2. The British Honduras Police, unmounted, consisting of one superintendent and 74 non-commissioned officers and men, distributed throughout the other districts, about 57 being stationed in the town of Belize alone.

The discipline and conduct of the police force have been satisfactory.

(B.) PRISONS.

The following table gives the total number of prisoners committed to all the prisons of the Colony for penal imprisonment, and the daily average number of prisoners in the Belize prison, from 1896 to 1900 :—

Year.			Prisoners committed for Penal Imprisonment.	Daily average in Belize Prison.
1896	...	...	548	57.18
1897	...	...	290	57.98
1898	...	...	405	65.64
1899	...	...	263	53.67
1900	...	...	286	51.34

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year 1900 was 1,742, against 1,614 in 1899 and 1,731 in 1898 ; whilst the number of persons summarily convicted was— in 1900, 1,209 ; in 1899, 1,136 ; and in 1898, 1,266.

In the Supreme Court, out of 66 informations, 29 judgments for the Crown were given in 1900, as compared with 40 judgments out of 62 informations in 1899, and 54 judgments out of 79 informations in 1898.

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

There are no trials on indictments and no bills, as no Grand Jury exists; the Attorney-General merely files an information, and when he thinks proper enters a *nolle prosequi*.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

The Registrar-General returns the population in 1900 as 36,998, consisting of 18,889 males and 18,109 females, as against 18,194 males and 17,032 females in 1899, a total increase of 1,772 as against 479 of the previous year.

He this year reports a marked increase in the number of marriages registered, viz., 339, the highest number yet recorded since 1895, and submits an interesting statement, showing that of the 678 persons married 417 were unable to sign their names.

The number of illegitimate births—622 out of a total of 1,478—shows no improvement on last year's record.

The following table gives the numbers of births, marriages, and deaths, and the rate per 1,000 of births and deaths for the last nine years :—

Year.	Births.	Birth rate per 1,000.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Death rate per 1,000.
1892 ...	1,219	38·73	372	1,282	40·73
1893 ...	1,274	40·48	404	1,374	43·66
1894 ...	1,162	35·32	380	1,208	36·72
1895 ...	1,355	40·626	348	1,029	31·122
1896 ...	1,435	43·025	288	977	28·893
1897 ...	1,410	40·522	309	1,013	29·524
1898 ...	1,469	42·208	281	1,146	32·906
1899 ...	1,526	43·320	273	1,191	33·810
1900 ...	1,478	39·948	339	890	24·055

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

During February and March a disease characterised by fever and glandular swellings appeared at Bacalar Chico, and was subsequently observed at Corosal; and later in the year others of a similar nature appeared at Northern River and in Belize. There were no opportunities for examining the blood bacteriologically, so the true nature of the malady is doubtful. The medical officer who saw cases and had them under treatment inclines to the view that this was a mild form of plague, in short the *pestis minor*, which, "as so often pointed out by many observers, is a disease which may precede, run concurrently with, or continue after an outbreak of true plague, or it may on the other hand occur independently of an epidemic of true plague." Happily there have been no further developments in this Colony, and the disease has died out.

There was no marked increase in the ordinary diseases of the country; the general state of the public health during the year was good. It should indeed be remarked here that while the death-rate, 24 per 1,000, is by far the lowest recorded, it will be found in the following paragraph that the rainfall, both in respect of inches and number of wet days, was abnormally heavy.

(C.) CLIMATE.

According to the observations taken at the meteorological station at Belize, the total rainfall for the year was 114·12, and rain fell on 160 days. The greatest rainfall occurred in October, with a total of 20·64, and the least rain fell in February, the amount being only 1·79.

The following table gives the total rainfall, and the number of days on which rain fell during the last five years :—

Year.	Total Rainfall— Inches.	No. of Days.
1896 ...	73·98	100
1897 ...	87·72	105
1898 ...	102·04	155
1899 ...	80·47	152
1900 ...	114·12	160

October and November were the rainiest months of a year which has been the wettest so far recorded. It will be observed that 63·91 inches fell in the last four months alone. The driest months were February and March.

The maximum shade temperature was 94·8 in May, 93·8 in September, 93·2 in October, and 93·0 in November; whilst the minimum temperature recorded was 51·8 in February and 56·0 in January.

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900

VIII.—POSTAL SERVICE.

The total revenue of the Post Office for 1900 was \$11,054.87.

The total expenditure of \$24,072.69 was distributed as follows:—

EXTRA COLONIAL :—					\$	\$
Subsidy	...	...	...	...	14,499.96	14,909.06
Transit dues	...	...	...	...	409.10	
INTRA COLONIAL :—						
Salaries and wages	...	...	...	...	2,875.00	9,163.63
Northern subsidy	...	...	...	...	5,400.00	
Southern subsidy	...	...	...	...	432.00	
Various services	...	...	...	...	456.63	
Total	...	...	...	...		24,072.69

The number of letters and other articles sent to and received from abroad from 1896 to 1900 was as follows:—

—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Ordinary letters ...	120,445	132,672	118,552	124,847	141,860
Registered letters ...	4,109	4,755	4,670	4,828	8,268
Post cards ...	3,145	2,730	2,943	2,907	4,271
Newspapers, books, &c.	83,592	94,121	93,574	86,486	97,989
Postal parcels...	1,228	1,226	1,343	1,672	2,063

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

The number of inland correspondence for the same period is given in the following table:—

—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Letters	52,835	53,313	56,860	56,619	58,579
Post-cards	308	487	1,090	752	1,279
Newspapers, books, and parcels.	11,174	5,656	7,869	6,956	8,113

The transactions in connection with the Money Order system from 1896 to 1900 were as follows:—

Money Orders issued on the United Kingdom, &c.

Year.					Amount.
					£ s. d.
1896	...	...	...	...	881 1 5
1897	...	...	...	...	1,043 15 4
1898	...	...	...	...	1,336 17 10
1899	...	...	...	...	1,228 2 10
1900	...	...	...	...	1,439 2 3

Money Orders issued on the United States of America.

Year.					Amount.
					\$
1899	...	...	...	...	2,289.13
1900	...	...	...	...	3,461.68

Money Orders drawn on the Colony.

Year.					Amount.
					£ s. d.
1896	...	...	...	...	265 19 8
1897	...	...	...	...	331 1 0
1898	...	...	...	...	246 10 0
1899	...	...	...	...	182 12 5
1900	...	...	...	...	282 6 2

*Money Orders drawn on the Colony by U.S.A.***BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.**

Year.					Amount.
					\$
1899	...	...	...	...	807.97
1900	...	...	...	...	832.14

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.**VOLUNTEERS.**

This force continued to progress favourably throughout the year. The strength on 31st December, 1900, was 9 officers and 168 non-commissioned officers and men.

An additional impetus was given to the volunteer movement by the appointment of Colour-Sergeant Greenway, of the Worcester Regiment, as sergeant-major and drill instructor in April, 1900. Drills were much better attended throughout the year, and although the standard of musketry attained was not, owing to very indifferent range accommodation, as good as it might have been, still considerable interest was taken in the range practices by all ranks, and the corps now contains a large number of very fair shots.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.**(A.) IMPORTANT EVENTS.**

1. Operations against the Yucatecan Indians were conducted by the Mexican forces throughout the year. No actions on a large scale appear to have taken place, but the country occupied has apparently been made good by the advancing forces, and it is hoped that the Indians will be gradually reduced to submission without any serious loss of life on either side. The Mexican Government has continued to make use of Belize during the year as a depôt and forwarding station.

2. The promotion of Chief Justice Sir William Anderson to the Chief Justiceship of Trinidad was succeeded by the appointment of His Honour Walter Llewellyn Lewis to the post of Chief Justice of this Colony, and Mr. Lewis arrived in the Colony and assumed the duties of his office on the 6th June.

BRITISH
HONDURAS,
1900.

3. His Excellency the Governor left Belize on the 26th July for England, and returned on the 29th October. During his absence the administration of the Government devolved upon me as Colonial Secretary.

(B.) PUBLIC WORKS.

The only "Public Work Extraordinary" undertaken during the year was the erection of an additional wing at the Belize Hospital. The work was not completed by the end of the year.

(C.) FUTURE PROSPECTS. OPENINGS FOR LABOUR AND CAPITAL. COST OF LABOUR AND OF LIVING. SOCIAL AND GENERAL CONDITIONS.

As I have already indicated, the outlook for our fruit trade is more promising. The fruit can be produced here, and the neighbouring port of New Orleans can, at present, take all that can be supplied of good uniform quality at certain seasons of the year.

As regards the wood-cutting industries, which have heretofore been the staple of the Colony, it would appear that the supply of real "Honduras" mahogany is beginning to fail—that is, that our exporters find it difficult to turn out that fine article which has hitherto stood so high in the estimation of the timber trade. The good wood that can be brought to the coast in existing conditions is no doubt comparatively scarce, and this condition of things must remain until improved methods of transportation render it possible to draw from the more inaccessible forests. Meanwhile the projects for a railway are apparently still in abeyance.

F. J. NEWTON,

Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 362.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

REPORT FOR 1901.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 339.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-32.] *Price 2d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
341	Ceylon	1900
342	Gibraltar	"
343	Basutoland	1900-1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	"
346	Northern Nigeria	1900-1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900-1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica... ..	1900-1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900
354	Bermuda... ..	1901
355	Gambia	"
356	Falkland Islands	"
357	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
358	Malta	"
359	Gibraltar	"
360	Straits Settlements	"
361	Sierra Leone	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand... ..	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas... ..	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific... ..	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas... ..	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies... ..	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
20	Wei Hai Wei	General Report.

BRITISH HONDURAS, 1901.

3

No. 362.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

(For Report for 1900, see No. 339.)

GOVERNOR SIR D. WILSON to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
Belize, 29th July, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report on the Blue Book for 1901, prepared by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,
D. WILSON,
Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF BRITISH HONDURAS FOR THE YEAR 1901.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The financial year which formerly ran concurrently with the calendar year was changed in 1901 and now commences on the 1st April and terminates on the 31st March. The quarter ended the 31st March, 1901, was treated in the Treasury accounts as a separate period, but in the statements which follow the revenue and expenditure of nine months of 1900 and three months of 1901 have been added together to form a basis for comparison with future financial years.

On the 1st April, 1900, the surplus on the General Revenue Account of the Colony was \$18,132.84.

(A.) REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The following statements show the Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for the calendar year 1900 and the financial year 1900-1 under each head of revenue and service respectively:—

General Revenue.

Head of Revenue.	1900.	Year ended 31st March, 1901.
	\$	\$
1. Customs	170,251.52	174,941.13
2. Light Dues	5,921.34	5,871.38
3. Internal Taxation	64,451.03	64,347.09
4. Revenues of Government Property ...	10,515.65	10,108.17
5. Court Fines, Fees of Office, Payments for Specific Services and Reimburse- ments in Aid.	20,392.19	19,948.98
6. Postal Revenue	11,054.87	10,021.98
7. Interest	2,255.16	2,249.39
8. Reimbursements on account of Belize Town and Harbour Improvements.	200.16	200.16
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	1,765.79	2,206.73
Total Ordinary Revenue ...	286,807.51	289,895.01
10. Sale of Crown Lands	2,920.38	2,794.27
Total General Revenue ...	289,727.89	292,689.28

General Revenue—*cont.*

Head of Revenue.	1900.	Year ended 31st March, 1901.
	\$	\$
Local Revenue :—		
Belize District	25,396.00	24,974.56
Corozal District	3,100.00	2,972.44
Orange Walk District	2,836.00	2,490.20
Stann Creek District	2,472.00	2,401.06
Toledo District	1,590.00	1,704.86
Cayo District	492.00	679.50
Total Local Revenue ...	35,886.00	35,222.62
Grand Total	325,613.89	327,911.90

Expenditure.

Head of Expenditure.	1900.	Year ended 31st March, 1901.
	\$	\$
1. Public Debt	11,134.44	11,128.21
2. Pensions	5,201.51	5,207.72
3. Governor	11,679.19	11,480.36
4. Colonial Secretary's Department ...	8,836.15	9,289.88
5. Treasury and Custom House ...	15,026.53	15,326.59
6. Audit Department	2,066.87	2,228.89
7. Post Office	24,072.69	24,079.42
8. Judicial	13,114.14	13,310.26
9. District Commissioners	15,351.22	15,647.64
10. Constabulary	28,608.41	26,267.00
11. Police	23,979.62	24,363.14
12. Belize Volunteer Force	1,587.45	1,677.98
13. Prisons	12,402.26	12,870.00
14. Medical Department	25,154.11	25,377.60
15. Central Board of Health and Quarantine	78.68	50.50
16. Education	13,191.53	14,729.89
17. Ecclesiastical	437.40	437.40
18. Surveyor-General's Department ...	7,489.49	7,401.18
19. Botanic Station	1,742.18	1,704.03
20. Miscellaneous	3,204.36	4,178.69
21. Lighthouses, &c.	3,569.20	3,873.37
22. Colonial Engineer's Department ...	3,195.33	3,183.40
23. Public Works Recurrent	11,345.17	11,499.52
Total Ordinary Expenditure ...	242,467.93	245,372.65
24. Public Works Extraordinary	3,733.15	3,813.85
Total General Expenditure ...	246,201.08	249,186.50

Expenditure—*cont.*

Head of Expenditure.	1900.	Year ended 31st March, 1901.
Local Expenditure :—	\$	\$
Belize District	25,222.00	26,882.13
Corozal District	2,998.00	3,585.83
Orange Walk District	2,846.00	2,688.55
Stann Creek District	4,133.00	4,005.94
Toledo District	1,753.00	1,209.43
Cayo District	428.00	452.11
Total Local Expenditure ...	37,880.00	38,823.99
Grand Total	283,581.08	288,010.49

The following is a statement of the Revenue and Expenditure for the five years 1897 to 1900-1 inclusive, with notes of points of special interest attached :—

General Revenue.

Year.	Amount.	Remarks.
1897	\$ 314,017	Includes \$20,000 Silver Coin, \$7,170 Export Duty on Logwood, and \$1,663 Casual Revenue.
1898	274,690	Includes \$1,250 Surplus Stock Savings Bank Investments, \$2,041 Insurance on Stores Lost at Sea, \$1,009 Refund of Cost of Survey on Lands.
1899	250,458	Includes \$13,342 Export Duty on Mahogany and Logwood from July.
1900	289,727	Includes the same Export Duty as in 1899, amounting to \$22,251, and an increase from 10 to 12½ per cent. on ad valorem goods from the 23rd June.
1900-1	292,689	Includes 9 months of 1900.

General Expenditure.

Year.	Amount.	Remarks.
1897	\$ 322,990	Includes \$3,385 Railway Survey, \$730 Telegraph Survey, and \$9,766 cost of Coinage, \$3,609 Belize Town and Harbour Improvements, \$15,228 Naval and Military.
1898	301,413	Includes \$36,865 on Roads, Bridges, and New Works.
1899	262,413	Includes \$3,228 for Official Residence at the Cayo.
1900	246,201	Includes \$2,229 for New Wing to the Belize Hospital.
1900-1	249,186	Includes 9 months of 1900.

Comparative return of local revenue and expenditure.

Revenue.

Year.	District.						
	Belize.	Corosal.	Orange Walk.	Stann Creek.	Toledo.	Cayo.	Total.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1897	22,902	3,657	3,492	2,221	1,146	753	34,171
1898	27,648	3,592	3,545	2,664	1,319	717	39,485
1899	27,200	3,154	2,602	2,578	578	754	36,866
1900	25,396	3,100	2,836	2,472	1,590	492	35,886
1900-1	24,975	2,972	2,490	2,401	1,705	679	35,222

Expenditure.

Year.	District.						
	Belize.	Corosal.	Orange Walk.	Stann Creek.	Toledo.	Cayo.	Total.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1897	22,534	3,636	3,340	1,801	1,318	679	33,308
1898	27,143	3,678	3,923	2,340	1,192	931	39,207
1899	28,312	3,190	4,132	1,023	694	1,192	38,543
1900	25,222	2,998	2,846	4,133	1,753	428	37,380
1900-1	26,882	3,586	2,689	4,006	1,209	452	38,824

The insertion twice of nine months' Revenue and Expenditure of 1900 has lessened the value of this return for purposes of comparison with the past. On the 1st January, 1897, the Boards had a surplus of \$9,047 in hand, and the actual Revenue and Expenditure to 31st March, 1901 (four years and three months), resulted in the surplus being increased to \$11,946. As, however, the Boards receive the principal portion of their Revenue in the month of January this apparent increase does not represent a true surplus. The true position is that on the 31st December, 1901, the surplus of 1897 had been reduced to \$6,514, making the excess of Expenditure over Revenue for the five calendar years 1897 to 1901, \$2,533.

(B.) IMPORTANT CHANGES IN TAXATION.

There was no increase of taxation during the year, but on the contrary the increase of tariff from 10 to 12½ per cent. on *ad valorem* goods mentioned in the last Report lapsed on the 31st January and the rate reverted to 10 per cent., while by the

Governor's Order in Council issued under the authority of Ordinance No. 20 of 1901, the export duty on mahogany was reduced from \$1.50 to 75 cents per 1,000 feet, and that on logwood from 50 cents to 25 cents per ton on 5th December, 1901.

(C.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The position of the Colony on the 31st March, 1901, in respect of its Assets and Liabilities is shown in the following table:—

General Revenues.

—	1900.	1900-1.
Assets	\$ 108,470.81	\$ 123,821.99
Liabilities	52,044.09	62,186.37
Excess of Assets	56,426.72	61,635.62

At the end of the calendar year 1901 the surplus on General Revenue Account stood at \$84,138, and on Local Revenue at \$6,514.00.

(D.) PUBLIC DEBT.

The following is a statement of the Loan Debt of the Colony on 31st March, 1901:—

Loan.	—	Dollars.
Loan of 1885...	5 per cent. Debentures	27,875
Loan of 1887...	4½ per cent. Debentures, £9,000 @ \$4.86 ...	43,740
Loan of 1891...	4½ per cent. Debentures, £20,000 @ \$4.86 ...	97,200
	Total	168,815

These loans were all contracted for the improvement of the town of Belize, and half the interest and Sinking Funds in respect of the loans of 1885 and 1887 are repaid out of the local funds to General Revenues. The Sinking Fund of the Loan of 1885 will require no further contributions, as the amount now at credit, if left to accumulate at compound interest at the rate of 3 per cent., will amount to more than will be necessary to pay off the liability when it becomes due for repayment in 1916.

Provision for payment has been made by the investment of the Sinking Funds as set forth in the next table:—

		£	s.	d.
Loan of 1885—repayable 1916.	\$27,875=£5,735 12s.	3,890	5	8
Loan of 1887—repayable 1918.	£9,000	2,910	1	10
Loan of 1891—repayable 1923.	£20 000	3,120	4	0
Total Sinking Funds		9,920	11	6

(E.) CURRENCY.

The standard of currency is the gold dollar of the United States of America—the gold coins of the United States being legally current at their respective values. The British sovereign and half-sovereign are legal tender for \$4.86 and \$2.43, respectively.

The subsidiary silver currency, coined specially for the Colony, amounts to \$110,000, and is made up as follows:—

Pieces.	Cents.	Dollars.
104,500	50	52,250
155,000	25	38,750
126,000	10	12,600
128,000	5	6,400
513,500	—	110,000

There is also a bronze cent piece, the amount in circulation being 150,000 pieces.

Under Ordinance No. 32 of 1894 currency notes of the following denominations have been issued:—

One dollar.
Two dollars.
Five dollars.
Ten dollars.
Fifty dollars.
One hundred dollars.

The amount of notes in circulation on the 31st March, 1901, was \$122,128; and against the notes issued the Commissioners of Currency held in the Colony \$86,330, \$35,798 having been remitted for investment in England.

(F.) DEBTS OF LOCAL BOARDS.

The Boards have not been authorised to contract loans, and the only Local Debt is a sum of \$1,900.60, being the balance due by the Belize District Board on account of an advance made

to this Board out of General Revenues for the construction of an iron bridge over the Belize River. The Board, however, has surplus revenue more than sufficient to cover the debt. The annual payment made by the same Board to General Revenues in refund of half the interest and Sinking Fund on the Town and Harbour Improvements Loans of 1885 and 1887, amounts to \$2,399.64.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following tables give the value of the Imports and Exports of the Colony for the years 1896 to 1901:—

Imports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	Colonies.	United States.	Other Countries.	Total Imports.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1896 ...	523,208	8,551	790,458	140,420	1,462,637
1897 ...	486,463	8,129	761,768	165,739	1,422,097
1898 ...	420,127	2,723	706,472	119,588	1,248,910
1899 ...	323,493	4,669	615,168	88,143	1,031,473
1900 ...	376,172	2,069	708,403	112,128	1,198,772
1901 ...	373,506	3,941	731,137	118,618	1,227,202

Exports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	Colonies.	United States.	Other Countries.	Total Exports.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1896 ...	763,522	—	312,997	305,082	1,378,601
1897 ...	769,867	56	238,187	396,279	1,404,387
1898 ...	853,173	531	214,327	214,562	1,282,593
1899 ...	860,378	—	245,864	172,375	1,278,617
1900 ...	613,565	—	352,358	334,642	1,300,565
1901 ...	635,913	—	595,285	156,400	1,387,598

The following is a statement of the quantity and value of the principal Exports of the Colony during the last six years:—

Article.	1896.		1897.		1898.		1899.		1900.		1901.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Mahogany	Feet. 2,769,676	\$ 186,882	Feet. 6,777,382	\$ 403,270	Feet. 7,630,252	\$ 471,279	Feet. 6,499,168	\$ 378,675	Feet. 7,994,378	\$ 438,589	Feet. 6,455,962	\$ 359,220
Cedar ...	33,639	1,873	234,736	12,251	316,113	15,401	351,149	25,456	400,611	19,714	421,231	20,977
Logwood ...	Tons. 34,539	803,636	Tons. 29,682	671,492	Tons. 23,579	499,223	Tons. 24,098	550,569	Tons. 20,521	432,986	Tons. 19,682	376,569
Bananas ...	Bunches. 414,398	94,868	Bunches. 356,852	84,935	Bunches. 306,700	73,225	Bunches. 272,898	75,444	Bunches. 366,972	91,105	Bunches. 538,751	152,514
Plantains...	No. 985,325	9,685	No. 1,110,550	9,735	No. 939,300	7,509	No. 1,506,750	12,498	No. 2,106,300	17,995	No. 1,833,450	14,988
Cocoanuts	1,707,041	16,770	1,824,622	19,178	2,119,000	20,996	2,699,831	25,669	2,407,180	26,044	3,265,367	41,114

The values of mahogany and logwood in the above table are taken as follows:—

—		1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901
Mahogany	... per foot	\$.64	\$.5 $\frac{2}{10}$	\$.64	\$.54	\$.53	\$.54
Logwood	... „ ton	23.27	22.62	21.17	22.86	21.10	19.13

Three large firms of mahogany and logwood merchants suspended operations during 1901, which doubtless accounts for the decreased exports, but the most serious aspect of the case is that those who have continued in the business complain of losses on their shipments, and declare their intention to restrict their operations. If they devote their capital to other industries the Colony will soon recover its prosperity, but up to the end of the year no movement in this direction appears to have taken place.

The exports of mahogany which in 1895 and 1896 were only 2,868,346 and 2,769,676 feet, respectively increased at a bound in 1897 to 6,777,382 feet, and in 1898 to 7,630,252 feet, decreasing in 1899 to 6,499,168 feet, only to rise again in 1900 to 7,994,378 feet. In the meantime the mahogany trade was being pushed in West Africa, and it would appear that the supply has in consequence exceeded the demand. The Customs Returns do not disclose any adequate reason in the fluctuation of prices for the great increase of exports in 1897 to 1900, as the price per foot is shown as highest in 1896 and 1898, and that for 1901 is somewhat higher than for 1900 although there are wide complaints that the trade has become unremunerative. I am afraid that the deductions to be drawn from this circumstance are that the value of the wood cannot always be accurately ascertained by the Customs officers, and that the large quantity of wood cut in recent years has exhausted the supply in easily accessible areas, and the cost of haulage of what is now available is excessive; the cost of production is therefore higher than formerly. It is probable moreover that the losses on measurement in England have a material bearing on the profits of the trade. I have been afforded a perusal of a recent sale catalogue of mahogany, from which I gather the following particulars:—The “extreme contents” of the shipment amounted to 221,314 superficial feet, whereas the “sale contents” are returned as 157,429 feet, a loss of 63,885 feet or 28.86 per cent of the shipment. A careful enquiry into the cause of this and similar discrepancies might result in a means being discovered of minimizing these losses, to the great advantage of the exporter.

The output of logwood has declined from 30,539 tons, valued at \$803,636, in 1896 to 19,682 tons, valued at \$376,569, in 1901, the price having declined from \$23.27 to \$19.13 per ton, and

the cost of freight increased from 28s. 9d. in 1899 to 33s. 9d. in 1901.

The exports of cedar are increasing and were valued at over \$20,000 more in 1901 than in 1896.

Bananas declined steadily from 414,398 bunches, valued at \$94,868, in 1896 to 272,898 bunches, valued at \$75,444, in 1899, but showed considerable recovery in 1900, which continued and was greatly increased in 1901, the export being 538,751 bunches, valued at \$152,514.

Cocoanuts which had been gradually increasing with some fluctuation since 1896 rose to 3,265,357 in quantity and \$41,114 in value in 1901, as against 1,707,041 in quantity and \$16,770 in value in 1896.

Plantains have fluctuated from year to year, but the exports were over \$5,000 more in value in 1901 than in 1896.

A general review of the export trade seems to show that for some reason not very clearly indicated but doubtless owing to an increased demand for mahogany and better prices, almost all other industries began to be neglected in 1897 and the energies of the population were devoted to increasing the output of mahogany, and that this trade proved remunerative for three or four years but is now undergoing the inevitable period of depression following inflation. Some encouragement may be felt from the circumstance that the banana industry shows some sign of resuming its importance and that cocoanuts indicate a steady and satisfactory increase.

The decrease in exports to other countries, \$178,242, is due to a diminution in the amount of logwood shipped to France, Holland and Germany of \$154,107 in value, and to the fact that Belize has lost a great deal of its trade with Guatemala and Spanish Honduras.

(B.) MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

There are no mines being worked.

The returns show two steam sugar mills with stills at Orange Walk, and four steam sugar mills and one still, also 10 cattle mills, at Toledo; at the Cayo, 13 cattle sugar mills, two stills and one coffee mill. No sugar is exported, but 1,701½ gallons of rum were shipped to Honduras.

There is a sponge fishery, and the export during the year amounted to 10,786 lbs., valued at \$2,553. A few turtle and fish are caught by native fishermen to supply the local markets.

(C.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

There is a small Botanic Station in a corner of the grounds of Government House, but the soil is sea sand and at high tide a portion of it is under water, while no part is higher than about

six or eight inches above sea level, and it is almost impossible to attempt much besides nursery work, the growth of plants in pots, and of a few hardy trees and shrubs in the sand. The services of the superintendent were utilised to a limited extent during the year in visiting out-districts and giving advice to planters who asked for his assistance. The number of plants distributed from this station was as follows:—

Cacao	1,550
Coffee	860
Nutmegs	559
Rubber	400
Logwood	2,400
Various, Fruits, &c.	278
„ Ornamental	777
	<hr/>
	6,824
	<hr/>
Rice seeds	8 packets

The principal drawbacks to agricultural development are want of knowledge of proper methods on the part of the land-owners and lack of skilled prædial labour. The adoption of labour-saving implements and a good system of drainage would make a marked difference in profits. The failure of mahogany within the past two years and of logwood for some years past to yield such remunerative prices as formerly should induce owners of property to turn their attention to the utilisation of such natural products of the forests as vanilla, cohune nuts, and the resin of the pine trees, and to learn and apply the science of agriculture. It is rather a drawback that land is so plentiful and cheap that all who invest money in it seem to purchase more than they can profitably manage, but this condition has been induced by the fact that dependence having been almost solely placed on forest growths it has been customary to acquire as large an area as possible. The area of the Colony is 7,562 square miles, and only 4,394 of the population are engaged in agriculture. The transition to cultivation of the soil and the growth of plants finds the inhabitants unprepared for the altered conditions and unable at once to realise that the concentration of their energies on a small but properly organised and efficiently conducted plantation will pay better than the possession of large tracts of land imperfectly attended to or given up to impenetrable jungle. It may be hoped that the depression which has overtaken the Colony and which is only due to the fluctuation in price of dye-woods and mahogany may be the means of widening the base of the Colony's prosperity by compelling the inhabitants to resort to other sources for increasing their wealth.

(D.) LAND GRANTS AND VALUE OF LAND.

During 1901 ten lots of land were sold, amounting in the aggregate to 506 acres. The price ranged from \$1.11½ to \$1.25 per acre. Five building lots in towns realised \$144.25.

Leases.

At the end of the year there were under lease 18,793 acres in 472 rural sections, an increase of 367 acres over 1900. These are distributed as follows:—

District.			Sections.	Acres.
Belize	...	...	69	4,421
Corosal	...	...	42	1,437
Orange Walk	...	...	21	152
Cayo	...	...	29	1,531
Stann Creek	...	...	81	2,850
Toledo	...	...	230	8,402
Total	...	...	472	18,793

The rents realised were about 15 cents. per acre. In addition there are a good many building lots in the towns of Stann Creek, Mullins River, and Punta Gorda, the rents of which are given up to the District Boards for local purposes.

The total revenue from Crown lands, including sales (\$928.73), amounted to \$7,720.77, while the expenditure of the Surveyor-General's Department amounted to \$6,391.40. The total amount of land alienated, principally by free grants but in recent years by sale, is about 2,778,440 acres, while the Crown lands amount to 1,957,959 acres.

(E.) SHIPPING.

The following tables give the number of sailing ships and steamers entered and cleared during the past five years and the number and tonnage of British, American, and Norwegian vessels entered and cleared respectively:—

Entered.

Year.			Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.	
			No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1897	...	...	428	35,571	213	158,213
1898	...	...	409	32,037	209	151,295
1899	...	...	368	25,080	216	166,104
1900	...	...	338	24,371	214	146,546
1901	...	...	404	27,076	291	179,846

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1897	421	38,258	213	158,081
1898	401	30,214	208	150,338
1899	374	27,716	214	163,358
1900	320	22,919	214	146,261
1901	409	26,986	295	180,887

Sailing Vessels—Entered.

Year.	British.		American.		Norwegian.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1897	197	10,836	28	1,119	40	15,141
1898	179	10,309	28	472	30	11,959
1899	175	10,398	27	671	27	10,259
1900	124	8,617	51	990	26	10,334
1901	178	6,779	66	1,506	33	13,169

Sailing Vessels—Cleared.

Year.	British.		American.		Norwegian.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1897	198	12,201	28	1,153	42	15,668
1898	184	10,186	27	428	30	11,716
1899	177	10,376	29	677	31	11,796
1900	129	8,774	44	841	24	9,479
1901	179	7,387	59	1,099	30	11,934

Steamers—Entered.

Year.	British.		American.		Norwegian.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1897	52	68,956	103	65,462	55	23,613
1898	80	84,415	54	34,603	70	31,365
1899	51	69,222	106	66,804	57	27,429
1900	35	51,666	104	56,627	69	33,906
1901	55	74,826	128	61,418	107	43,596

Steamers—Cleared.

Year.	British.		American.		Norwegian.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1897	51	68,030	104	66,256	55	23,613
1898	79	83,533	54	34,663	70	31,392
1899	50	66,523	105	66,756	57	27,430
1900	36	51,423	103	56,586	69	35,904
1901	53	73,665	134	63,374	107	43,843

III.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty Ordinances were passed during the year.

CUSTOMS.

Two relate to Customs (Import) Duties, one to Export Duties, and one to other Customs matters. Ordinances Nos. 1 and 13 consolidated the Ordinances relating to Customs (Import) Duties and fixed the *ad valorem* rate at 10 per cent. Ordinance No. 3 made some alteration in the procedure for valuing goods imported, empowered the Governor to authorise any warehoused goods *bondâ fide* intended for the service of any friendly foreign government, to be exported without requiring any security or bond, and gave the Collector of Customs power in special cases, when satisfied that the Revenue will run no risk, to authorise any warehoused goods to be exported to any place beyond the limits of the Colony without security or bond. Section 4 of the Ordinance also modified the penalty for importing prohibited goods.

Ordinance No. 20 enabled the Governor in Council to vary the export duties on mahogany and logwood, the rates not to exceed—

Mahogany per 1,000 superficial feet	...	\$1.50
Logwood per ton	... ..	.50

The rates now collected are one half of the above.

LIGHT DUES.

Ordinance No. 16 enabled the Governor to exempt from Light Dues the transports or store ships of any friendly foreign government.

BANKRUPTCY.

Two Ordinances, Nos. 14 and 17, establish a Bankruptcy system in the Colony for the first time. These Ordinances,

which represent the most important enactment of the year, will, it is hoped, add to the security of trade and commerce in the Colony.

QUARANTINE.

Ordinance No. 4 amended the Quarantine Ordinance, 1894, and prescribed detention of five days in the case of cholera or yellow fever, and 14 days in the case of small-pox or bubonic plague.

AFFIRMATIONS.

Ordinance No. 6 provided for the making of affirmations instead of oaths in certain cases.

INTESTATE ESTATES OF CITIZENS OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Ordinance No. 12 enables the Consul of the United States of America to administer these estates in certain cases.

APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS.

Six Appropriation Ordinances were passed (the number being larger than usual in consequence of the alteration of the financial year) for the legal appropriation of the General Revenues and the funds of the District Boards during 1901.

SUNDRY.

The remaining four Ordinances relate to the appointment of the Chief Justice, the service of process issued out of District Courts, Pensions of Public Officers, and the Fire Rate of the town of Belize.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The grant-in-aid of education was increased during the year by \$1,000 in order to provide for the opening of schools in certain places where no schools existed and where the children had no means of being educated. No system of industrial education has yet been commenced, and there are very great difficulties to be overcome before such a system could be efficiently applied, yet I think there can be no part of the world in which it is more essential. Boys are brought up in almost absolute idleness until they develop into adults strong enough to go into the forests and wield an axe, while girls have nothing more to do than sewing and perhaps general household work. Women do not hire for agricultural labour, and there are no factories in which their services could be utilised, so they perform very little

work outside of their home circles. The principal schools are situated in the towns on the coast line, which is generally so flat that the land is usually too wet for agricultural purposes, and any other form of industrial training would be more costly than the Colony could afford, while under present conditions there is very little scope for the employment of tradesmen. Moreover, no form of industrial training can be undertaken until the services of competent teachers can be secured, and in the absence of any Training College these would have to be imported. The difficulty will no doubt have to be faced; but in the absence of any school tax or source of revenue for education purposes, except such sums as can with difficulty be spared out of General Revenues, and which can only be granted by curtailing necessary and urgent public works, such as the improvement of the internal land and water communications of the Colony, any increased expenditure for the purposes of education can not be regarded with equanimity.

Comparative Statement of Numbers, Attendances, and Contributions from 1897 to 1901.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Children on Register.	Average Daily Attendance.	Percentage of Average Attendance to Number on Register.	Average School Days.	Government Grants.	School Fees.	Voluntary Contributions.	Grant per caput on Average Daily Attendance.
1897	49	8,698	2,705	78-24	190	14,162.17	2,880.97	11,961.87	5.38
1898	45	8,728	2,606	69-90	190	14,449.60	2,793.25	15,540.11	5.52
1899	42	8,547	2,491	70-23	186	11,637.26	2,479.49	10,126.58	4.67
1900	38	8,391	2,383	70-30	188	11,245.63	2,312.53	9,101.98	4.76
1901	36	8,423	2,328	68-01	189	12,030.08	2,230.	8,584.71	5.16

*Government Grants and School Fees as received by each
Denomination in 1901.*

Schools.	Total Government Grants.	Total School Fees.	Proportion of Government Grant to School Fees.
Church of England ...	\$ 3,103.20	\$ 634.62	4.89
Roman Catholic ...	4,653.12	669.86	6.94
Wesleyan ...	3,142.83	650.42	4.83
Baptist ...	920.17	112.08	8.21
Non-denominational ...	210.76	88.92	2.37
Totals ...	12,030.08	2,155.90	5.58

*Numbers of, and Attendance by, Children according to
Denominations in 1901.*

Schools.	Number of Children on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Total School Fees.	Receipt of School Fees per unit of Average Attendance.
Church of England	847	527	\$ 634.62	\$ 1.20
Roman Catholic ...	1,343	998	669.86	.67
Wesleyan ...	913	595	650.42	1.09
Baptist ...	247	166	112.08	.67
Non-denominational	73	42	88.92	2.11
Totals ...	3,423	2,328	2,155.90	.93

The foregoing tables have reference to those schools only which receive Government aid; they are all primary.

There are a few unaided primary schools. These depend for support on the school fees collected and other sums received by way of voluntary contributions; usually, however, the school fees are the only receipts. As information touching these receipts has been given by but one school, it is not possible to state here the total amount collected. Their total number on the rolls is about 200 pupils with an average attendance of 150.

Secondary education is almost exclusively under the management of the churches. The schools receive no aid from Government, nor are they privately endowed. They depend for their support on the school fees collected, and, if these prove insufficient, the balance is made up from private subscriptions, which are usually obtained from persons outside of the Colony (the United States and Great Britain). In some instances the

managers of these schools are not willing to give all the information asked for for the purpose of the Blue Book. The amount of school fees collected appears from the information given to have been about \$6,000.00. The number of pupils on the rolls is about 300, with an average attendance of 250.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS, ASYLUMS, AND POOR-HOUSE.

The new wing of the Belize Hospital, capable of accommodating 24 beds, was opened for use.

The following table shows the number of patients under treatment and care in the various institutions during 1901:—

Institutions.	Remained at beginning of 1901.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Remained at beginning of 1902.	Average Daily.
Belize Hospital ...	38	550	479	53	56	48.44
Corosal Hospital ...	2	100	79	15	8	6.77
Orange Walk Hospital	3	104	92	4	11	8.59
Belize :—						
Lunatic Asylum ...	39	9	0	4	44	40.04
Poor-house ...	17	9	0	6	20	21.78

SAVINGS BANKS.

There are six savings banks conducted by the Government, one in the chief town of each district; but there were no transactions at the Cayo during 1901 and no money at deposit. The savings bank at Belize was established in 1846, and had, at the end of the year 1901, 373 depositors.

The total amount at the credit of all depositors in the savings banks of the Colony at 31st December, 1901, was \$46,470.35, as against \$38,925.84, in 1900.

The rate of interest allowed is 3 per cent. per annum.

The amount of invested funds is \$42,424.62.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

It may here be mentioned that there are eight duly registered Friendly Societies in Belize, with whom 359 members are recorded as having invested \$11,062.24, in addition to amounts held on current account to meet expenses and withdrawals.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

(A.) POLICE.

The process of absorbing the British Honduras Constabulary Force into the Police force was nearly completed by the 31st December. The Cayo district was taken over in February and the Orange Walk district in July, while the strength of the Police force was increased from 76 to 96. At the end of the year only the Corosal district remained to be taken over, but all necessary arrangements had been made for this to be done and the strength of the Police force for the whole Colony authorised as one superintendent, two assistants, and 113 non-commissioned officers and men.

The discipline of the Force was good.

(B.) PRISONS.

The following table gives the total number of prisoners committed to all the prisons of the Colony for penal imprisonment, and the daily average number of prisoners in the Belize prison, from 1897 to 1901:—

Year.				Prisoners committed for Penal Imprisonment.	Daily average in Belize Prison.
1897	...	...	...	290	57.98
1898	...	...	...	405	65.64
1899	...	...	...	263	53.67
1900	...	...	...	286	51.34
1901	...	...	...	321	45.31

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year 1901 was 1,441, against 1,742 in 1900 and 1,614 in 1899; whilst the number of persons summarily convicted was, in 1901, 947; in 1900, 1,209; in 1899, 1,136; and in 1898, 1,266.

Sixty-two persons were committed for trial in the Superior Courts. Of the 62 cases passed on to the Supreme Court, six fell through for want of prosecution; prisoners were found to be insane in two; judgment for the Crown was given in 37; and judgment for the prisoner in 17.

There were three convictions for murder, one for manslaughter, three for attempt at murder, one for rape, 16 for other offences against the person, 10 for offences against property, and three for miscellaneous offences. The capital sentence was executed in two cases.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

The Census was taken on the 31st March, 1901, and the population returned as 19,140 males and 18,339 females, making a total of 37,479, an increase of 6,008 or 19 per cent. during the decade, as against an increase of 14·64 during the previous ten years.

The birth-rate for the year was 39·548 against a death-rate of 28·393 per mille.

The number of illegitimate births—642 out of a total of 1,489, shows no improvement on last year's record. There seems to be a tendency towards the increase of illegitimacy, the rates per cent. for the five years being as follows:—

1897	...	...	...	...	36·31
1898	...	...	...	...	37·51
1899	...	...	...	...	39·85
1900	...	...	...	...	42·08
1901	...	...	...	...	43·12

312 marriages took place during the year, being 27 less than in 1900.

The following table gives the numbers of births, marriages, and deaths, and the rate per 1,000 of births and deaths for the last ten years:—

Year.	Births.	Birth rate per 1,000.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Death rate per 1,000.
1892 ...	1,219	38·73	372	1,282	40·73
1893 ...	1,274	40·48	404	1,374	43·66
1894 ...	1,162	35·32	380	1,208	36·72
1895 ...	1,355	40·626	348	1,029	31·122
1896 ...	1,435	43·026	288	977	28·893
1897 ...	1,410	40·522	309	1,013	29·524
1898 ...	1,469	42·208	281	1,146	32·905
1899 ...	1,526	43·320	273	1,191	33·810
1900 ...	1,478	39·948	339	890	24·055
1901 ...	1,489	39·548	312	1,069	28·393

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

The classification of the causes of death adopted by the Colonial Surgeon is as follows:—

	Per thousand.
Malarial fevers ...	9·428
Dysentery ...	1·593
Phthisis ...	0·903
Nervous diseases ...	2·841
Circulatory ...	0·982
Respiratory ...	1·726
Intestinal ...	1·965

Total death-rate of the Colony ... 28·393

It must, however, be borne in mind that only 29·84 per cent. were certified by medical practitioners.

There is apparently a marked difference in the salubrity of Stann Creek, Orange Walk, and Belize as compared with the other districts, judging by the following figures:—

Stann Creek, mortality per 1,000	...	20·653
Orange Walk	„	23·957
Belize	„	24·933
Toledo	„	35·308
Corosal	„	37·321
Cayo	„	37·383

It is, however, quite probable that the very high mortality in Toledo, Corosal, and Cayo is to some extent attributable to the relatively large Indian population inhabiting these districts rather than to unhealthiness of climate, the Indians being a short-lived race and the deaths among them having exceeded the births by 38 during the year.

The diseases which caused the largest number of deaths were:—

—	Certified.	Uncertified.	Total.
Fever	29	325	354
Dysentery	26	34	60
Diarrhoea	17	29	46
Tetanus	17	1	18
Phthisis	9	3	32
Consumption		20	

There were 12 cases of deaths from drowning, two from snake-bite, and five from gunshot wounds. There has been no yellow fever or small pox in the Colony since 1892. Only 463 vaccinations took place during the year, a very small proportion of the children born—1,489.

There can, I think, be no doubt that the habits of the people are not conducive to longevity. A portion of the population is herded into towns or villages on the sea coast, restricted in area on account of the surrounding swamps, while for the greater part of the year the labouring population are out in the woods cut off from medical aid in case of illness or accident. If the people could be persuaded to settle on homesteads within a reasonable distance from the towns and use their leisure time and employ their children in growing foodstuffs and rearing stock and poultry, their health, comfort and material welfare would be greatly improved.

(C.) CLIMATE.

The statistics of temperature and rainfall are only available for Belize, which, being situated on the sea coast at the edge of a

plain of very large extent is probably hotter and drier than many other parts of the Colony, though the large swamps in the vicinity of the town must add considerably to the humidity. The highest shade temperature in 1901 of 98·2 F. was recorded in March, and it was not until August that the maximum decreased to 89·9; but it rose again in September to 91·3, and was 90·2 in October. The lowest maximum was 85 in December and the minimum for the year of 50 occurred in the same month. The strong sea breezes which blow during the greater part of the year temper the heat, and by living in a draught night and day the inhabitants do not suffer so much as might be assumed from the readings of the thermometer. When the wind ceases, however, the heat becomes oppressive.

The rainfall for the year was 83·6 inches, the greatest fall in one month being 17·90 in September. The four months from February to May inclusive averaged 0·87 inch, that for May being only 0·59 and the average for the remaining eight months being just over 10 inches. It rained on 116 days. The rainfall was less than that of the preceding year by 30½ inches, but was not exceptional, as will be observed from the appended table:—

	Year.	Rainfall in Inches.	No. of Days.
	1896 ...	73·98	100
	1897 ...	87·72	105
	1898 ...	102·04	155
	1899 ...	80·47	152
	1900 ...	114·12	160
	1901 ...	83·6	116

MISCELLANEOUS NUMERICAL RETURNS.

The most noticeable feature disclosed by these returns is that only 5½ per cent. of the inhabitants pay any direct taxes, and that in many cases freeholders pay no taxes. This would appear to be due to the exemption of property under \$35 in annual value by chapter 97 of the Consolidated Laws. A proprietary class owing no obligation to the State, which has to provide roads, police protection, and medical relief seems an anomaly. The position is even more accentuated in the towns where the rates collected from the other inhabitants have to be disbursed in scavenging, in addition to other services, for this class.

VIII.—POSTAL SERVICE.

The total revenue of the Post Office for 1901 was \$9,875.50.

The total expenditure of \$24,074.34 was distributed as follows:—

EXTRA COLONIAL:—					\$	\$
Subsidy	...	...	...	...	14,499.96	14,909.06
Transit dues	...	...	...	...	409.10	
INTRA COLONIAL:—						
Salaries and wages	...	...	...	...	2,769.97	9,165.28
Northern subsidy	...	...	...	...	5,400.00	
Southern subsidy	...	...	...	...	448.00	
Various services	...	...	...	...	547.31	
Total	...	...	...	...		24,074.34

The number of letters and other articles sent to and received from abroad from 1897 to 1901 was as follows:—

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Ordinary letters	132,672	118,552	124,847	141,860	138,359
Registered letters	4,755	4,670	4,828	8,268	8,932
Post-cards	2,730	2,943	2,907	4,271	4,591
Newspapers, books, &c.	94,121	93,574	86,486	97,989	91,748
Postal parcels...	1,226	1,343	1,672	2,063	2,064

The number of inland correspondence for the same period is given in the following table:—

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Letters	53,313	56,860	56,619	58,579	61,842
Post-cards	487	1,090	752	1,279	1,281
Newspapers, books, and parcels.	5,656	7,869	6,956	8,113	9,702

The transactions in connection with the money-order system from 1897 to 1901 were as follows:—

Money Orders issued on the United Kingdom, &c.

Year.					Amount.		
					£	s.	d.
1897	...	...	...	...	1,043	15	4
1898	...	...	...	...	1,336	17	10
1899	...	...	...	...	1,228	2	10
1900	...	...	...	...	1,439	2	3
1901	...	...	...	...	1,198	11	10

Money Orders issued on the United States of America.

Year.					Amount.
					\$
1899	...	...	...	...	2,289.13
1900	...	...	...	...	3,461.68
1901	...	...	...	...	3,065.30

Money Orders drawn on the Colony.

Year.					Amount.
					£ s. d.
1897	...	...	...	...	331 1 0
1898	...	...	...	...	246 10 0
1899	...	...	...	...	182 12 5
1900	...	...	...	...	282 6 2
1901	...	...	...	...	215 10 2

Money Orders drawn on the Colony by U.S.A.

Year.					Amount.
					\$
1899	...	...	...	...	807.97
1900	...	...	...	...	832.14
1901	...	...	...	...	831.06

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

VOLUNTEERS.

This force continued to progress favourably throughout the year. The strength on 31st December, 1901, was eight officers and 183 non-commissioned officers and men.

The force received a welcome present from the Belize Estate and Produce Company in the shape of a Maxim gun.

The total expenditure for the year was \$2,840.45.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(A.) IMPORTANT EVENTS.

The most important events of 1901 would appear to have been:—

The lightening of taxation by the reversion from 12½ per cent. to 10 per cent. of the *ad valorem* duties on imports, and the decrease by 50 per cent. of the export duties.

The change of the financial year, which formerly ran concurrently with the calendar year but now runs from 1st April to 31st March.

The appointment of a Land Tax Commission having for its object the remodelling of the Land Tax “so as to do away with or avoid any inequalities of its incidence, and at the same time to secure to the General Revenue of this Colony an annual sum of not less than twenty-five thousand dollars.” A tax of nine-tenths of a cent. per acre on the 2,778,440 acres of land alienated would be necessary to yield this sum. The report was not received until after the close of the year.

The death of Queen Victoria was as much felt here as in Her Majesty's other Colonial possessions. It is probable that no ruler has ever hitherto succeeded in casting so strong a spell on her subjects dwelling thousands of miles beyond the seas. Confidence in her justice and beneficence was so great that it had become an implicit and unreasoning article of faith that nothing could emanate from her but what was good, wise and kindly. The accession of King Edward was celebrated with becoming ceremony here, and His Majesty succeeded to a throne held in reverence and profound respect and love by all classes of his colonial subjects.

Mr. F. J. Newton, C.M.G., relinquished the office of Colonial Secretary here on 1st November last to assume a similar appointment in Barbados.

(B.) PUBLIC WORKS.

The wing to the Belize Public Hospital commenced in 1900 was completed during the year. The survey of a route from Belize *via* Orange Walk and Corosal for the erection of a telegraph line to connect with the Mexican system in Yucatan was undertaken and carried through as far as the last-named town.

No other extraordinary public works were commenced.

(C) FUTURE PROSPECTS. OPENINGS FOR LABOUR AND CAPITAL. COST OF LABOUR AND OF LIVING. SOCIAL AND GENERAL CONDITIONS.

The resources of this Colony are so considerable that it is marvellous that much greater development has not taken place than is shown by the returns. At least four rivers could be made navigable for light draught steamers for considerable distances inland, and a dozen for canoes or doreys. The Hondo, New River, and Sarstoon are already being used to some extent

for navigation by moderately large craft, but their utility might be increased. Mahogany, logwood, vanilla, cacao, rubber (*Castilloa Elastica*), sapodilla (from which "chicle" or chewing gum is prepared), and pimento or allspice are indigenous, and pine trees and various hardwoods are present in great abundance. The soil in many large areas is peculiarly suitable for the growth of the sugar cane, and factories of very large size could be established if capital were forthcoming. Bananas, oranges, pine-apples, rice, and maize are only a few of the products which grow luxuriantly. The bounteousness of nature seems to have made existence so easy in the past that the inhabitants have not been spurred to exertion by necessity, and have lived almost solely by cutting mahogany and logwood, found in the forests, which are then floated down the rivers. Attempts have been made within recent years to cultivate bananas, but cultivation is hampered by want of agricultural knowledge on the part of the land owners and the difficulty of obtaining labourers accustomed to any other kind of labour than that of wood-cutting. The cultivation of cacao is being attempted, but has not yet expanded to any considerable extent. Before agriculture can be expected to become a thriving industry, it will be necessary to facilitate transport by improving the navigation of the rivers and by making good cart roads or tramways leading to the rivers or the sea coast; this is especially necessary in the case of banana cultivation, the fruit being perishable and needing great care in handling. Communication by telegraph or telephone will also be necessary if a thriving business is to be carried on. No use is at present being made of the vanilla, pimento, or lumber (other than mahogany, cedar and logwood). Vanilla grows so luxuriantly that frequently when riding along the roads through the forests the rider has to lop off the overhanging vines with his machete in order to secure free passage. There seems good reason to believe that a lucrative industry could be established in the production of the bean if attention were paid to the matter. Another natural product of the forest at present almost entirely wasted is the cohune nut which yields the finest oil for table and other purposes while the refuse might be suitable for food for stock. Immense quantities at present go to waste.

The intelligent expenditure of capital in this vast store-house of natural wealth might be expected to yield very large profits, but it seems to be a rule that in countries where the climate is most rigorous and the conditions of life hardest, the necessities of the situation spur human beings to the greatest exertion and sharpen their wits to cope with their environment, while the opposite effect is produced when nature is bounteous. This doubtless accounts in a great measure for the prosperity of the British possessions in the North and the relative backwardness of those towards the South on this Continent.

There is more than sufficient labour for the principal industry of the Colony—wood-cutting—because most of the accessible

mahogany and logwood has already been cut and the transition to other industries will be slow, but the Colony is capable of supporting at least a couple of million inhabitants instead of only 37,479 who now occupy a fringe of the coast line and the banks of the principal rivers. With an area equal to that of the Principality of Wales and much virgin soil of great fertility there is no good reason why this Colony should any longer remain in its present backward condition.

The Public Debt is only £34,735, incurred solely for the improvement of Belize, and against this the investments of the Sinking Funds amounted to £10,420 on 31st December, leaving a net liability of £24,315; the annual debt charge being £2,286, of which £500 is refunded by the town of Belize out of local funds. There was a surplus of \$61,636 at credit of General Revenues on 31st March, 1901, which has been increased since, and at the date of this report amounts to over \$76,000. The average revenue and expenditure for the five years ended 31st December, 1900, were \$286,318 and \$280,579 respectively, but though the receipts have since fallen off the ordinary expenditure has also been decreased. The present financial position of the Government is fairly strong, but as a set-off trade is stagnant and the revenues decreasing. Appearances seem to indicate that the ordinary expenses of Government need not exceed \$245,000 per annum and that in the immediate future all receipts in excess of this amount may be devoted to the improvement of the waterways and the construction of tramways or roadways in the Colony and their maintenance in proper condition. These measures would probably have the effect of stimulating trade and agriculture and possibly of affording some assistance to the wood-cutting industry. For many years past a project for building a railway has been under discussion, but I greatly regret that after carefully studying the plans and estimates and traversing the greater part of the projected route I have come to the conclusion that the scheme in its present shape is impracticable, as being beyond the resources of the Colony and too costly to yield a return on the outlay unless great modifications are found to be possible in the cost of construction, or unless other sources of revenue can be discovered to assist the undertaking.

The price of labour is, as may be expected, decreasing. The contracts made for 1902 show wages: for woodcutters, \$8.00 to \$10.00 per month with food and house accommodation; for agricultural labourers, \$6.50 to \$8.00 per month with food and house accommodation. The woodcutters are efficient, but only work from four to six hours a day. Agricultural labourers are generally raw hands and no labour-saving implements are in use.

The social conditions of the general body of the people are not conducive to the effective settlement of the country. Over 40 per cent. of the inhabitants were residents of the six principal

townships on 31st March, 1901, when the Census was taken, and a considerable number lived in villages. These represent the comparatively small number of men employed in the towns and villages and the women and children who perform little or no labour, the men being mostly absent in the woods cutting timber beyond the reach of medical aid or efficient care when ill. About 20 per cent. of the population consists of Indians who are of nomadic habit, living principally on maize, a crop which is planted and reaped within 5 or 6 months, and who reside in crazy huts built of sticks and thatch. These people move from place to place and apparently have no inclination to settle long in one spot and improve it. The genuine labourers are a mere fraction of the population and they work shorter hours than labourers in any part of the world of which I have experience. In the months of November and December the woodcutters, and even the plantation labourers draw the balance of their wages for the year, and come flocking into the towns, where they spend it, I fear too often for the prosperity of the Colony, in riotous living. In December and January they enter into new engagements, obtain advances on account of the year's wages, and go again into the woods to cut timber. There is no home life, no steady and permanent improvement of their condition and surroundings, and little or no provision for old age. The circumstances necessary for the building up of a respectable class of peasant proprietors can hardly be said to exist, and until this is accomplished the prosperity of the country will not be on a firm and stable basis. At the date of the Census there were 276 persons owning less than 10 acres of land, 291 between 10 and 640 acres and 41 above 640 acres. The 41 large landowners, of whom 12 possess 3,246½ square miles, may be said to hold the fortunes of British Honduras in the hollow of their hands. The measures which may be expected to bring about improvement are, immigration of a class of people accustomed to agriculture, the spread of agricultural knowledge amongst the mass of the people, and their gradual settlement on Crown lands, accompanied by the provision of adequate and suitable means of communication, which, as I have pointed out can be secured by keeping the waterways clear of obstruction and constructing roads or tramways and telephones or telegraphs out of our surplus revenue. Persistent and sustained effort for a few years on a settled plan would make British Honduras a prosperous Colony. The most urgent need of the moment is the presence of a few intelligent men with moderate capital, having knowledge of tropical agriculture, the determination to succeed, and the wit to make use of the natural resources ready to their hands.

P. C. CORK, Colonial Secretary.

26th July, 1902.

COLONIAL REPORTS--ANNUAL.

No. 336.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

REPORT FOR 1899-1900.

(For Report for 1898-1899, *see* No. 292.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1901.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1901.

[Cd. 788-c.] Price 3d.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
313	Basutoland	1899-1900
314	Hong Kong	1899
315	Southern Nigeria	1899-1900
316	Grenada	1899
317	Jamaica	1899-1900
318	British Guiana	"
319	Christmas Island	1900
320	British Solomon Islands	1899-1900
321	Lagos	1900
322	Bermuda... ..	"
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados	"
327	Bahamas	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia... ..	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	1900

MISCELLANEOUS.

No	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand... ..	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas... ..	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific... ..	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas... ..	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Report on operations in New Territory during 1900.

INDEX.

Subject.	Page.
LEGISLATION.	
Ordinance No. IV. of 1899 consolidates Land Laws	5
Ordinance No. V. of 1899 adopts Queensland Mining Act ...	5
Ordinance No. I. of 1900 consolidates Native Labour Ordinances	5
Ordinance No. III. of 1900 amends Arms, Liquor, and Opium Prohibition Ordinance	6
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.	
Particulars of Matters dealt with Judicially	7
VISITS OF INSPECTION.	
Visit to the Western Division	14
Visit to the Eastern and South-Eastern Divisions	15
Visit to the Northern Division	16
Visit to the Western Division (Morehead River)	18
Visit to the Western Division (Fly Estuary)	19
Visit to the North-Eastern Division (Cape Nelson)	20
Visit to the Central, Eastern and South Eastern Divisions ...	20
Visit to the Eastern and North-Eastern Divisions	21
REPORTS BY OFFICERS.	
Report of the Resident Magistrate, Central Division	24
Report of the Government Agent, Rigo District	27
Report of the Acting Government Agent, Rigo District	29
Report of the Government Agent, Mekeo District	29
Report of the Resident Magistrate, Eastern Division	30
Report of the Resident Magistrate, South-Eastern Division ...	33
Report of the Resident Magistrate, Northern Division... ..	34
Western Division	36
Report of the Acting Commandant, Armed Native Constabulary	37
Report of the Head Gaoler and Overseer of Works	37
Report of the Chief Government Surveyor	38
Report of the Chief Medical Officer	40
Report of the Acting Resident Magistrate, Western Division...	51

Subject.									Page.
TRADE.									
Imports	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Exports	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Shipping	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Postal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
FINANCE.									
Revenue	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Expenditure on S.S. "Merrie England"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
OFFICIAL STAFF.									
Return of Public Officers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
MISSION WORK.									
The London Missionary Society	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
The Wesleyan Mission	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
The Anglican Mission	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
The Sacred Heart Mission	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
METEOROLOGICAL.									
Rainfall during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50

No. 336.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

(For Report for 1898-1899, see No. 292.)

REPORT ON BRITISH NEW GUINEA FOR THE YEAR,
30TH JUNE, 1899, TO 30TH JUNE, 1900.

LEGISLATION.

Six Ordinances were passed during the year ending 30th June, 1900. Two of these are Appropriation Ordinances.

Ordinance No. IV. of 1899, "The Lands Ordinance of 1899," consolidates the previous law on the subject of the acquisition of lands by the Government, and their sale by it to other parties. It also gives effect to the arrangement entered into with the Premiers of the three contributing colonies in the previous year, under which it was decided that lands of considerable areas should be advertised in England and the Australian Colonies for six months before they could be disposed of, but that small areas of 640 acres or one square mile could be granted without advertisement, provided that they are not included in any area already advertised until the six months had elapsed; also that selectors actually in the Possession could obtain grants of ten square miles without advertisement, subject to a similar proviso.

Ordinance No. V. adopts, with some exceptions and modifications required by local circumstances, the "Mining Act of 1898" of Queensland; the fee for a miner's right is retained at 10s. in British New Guinea. In Queensland the Act has reduced it to 5s.

Ordinance No. I. of 1900, "The Native Labour Ordinance of 1900," consolidates the previous labour laws, and contains some additional provisions for the appointment of inspectors of labour and labour vessels. It also provides for a fee of 1s. per head on entering into a labour agreement before a magistrate or other officer, and a similar fee on being paid off. Greater elasticity is given to the operation of the labour laws by the appointment of inspectors with powers to cancel or vary contracts; but special exception is made of two provisions of the original contract which cannot be altered without the consent of the magistrate of the district before whom the labourers were

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

engaged—namely, the place at which the men are to be paid off; and, if so stated on the agreement, that the men are not allowed to re-engage without first returning to their homes. These two provisions are in the interests of the recruiters as well as the labourers, for in certain little known districts where men are taken away from their homes for the first time it is of the greatest importance that they should return to their relatives with the results of their labour, and if they did not it is very likely that not only would there be great difficulty in getting more from the same neighbourhood, but very probably some innocent person would lose his life. The magistrate of the district is the best person to know if this is necessary, and, if he considers that either is so, no one can alter the contract in these two respects without his written consent.

Ordinance No. III. of 1900 makes it a punishable offence under the "Arms, Liquor, and Opium Prohibition Ordinance, 1888," for a native to drink or have in his possession any intoxicating liquor, or to use or have in his possession any firearm or opium without a permit; this is a necessary corollary to the Principal Ordinance, which makes the supplying of such prohibited articles to natives an offence.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

The abstract return of criminal cases tried in the Central Court shows a total of 78 cases, against 52 in the previous year. Of these 27 were committed from the Central District, 28 from the Eastern District, and 23 from the Western.

The Central Court held 15 criminal sessions—seven at Port Moresby, three at Samarai (East Division), two at Nivani (South-east Division), one at Mambare (North Division), one at Mukawa (East Division), and one at Daru (West Division).

Of the total number of cases tried, 33 were for murder, nine for indecent assault, three for other assaults, two for wounding, two for breach of prison, and one respectively for arson and larceny. There was no conviction for murder; the cases resolving themselves into manslaughter, there was consequently no sentence of death recorded. The maximum sentence was seven years' penal servitude.

On the Civil side of the Central Court there were 32 proceedings; of these 19 were applications to administer estates or for probate, four were appeals from Gold Wardens' decisions, three appeals from Petty Sessions and Small Debt Courts, and six were cases stated for opinion from the Woodlark Island Gold Field.

Of the summary offences, of which there were 297, against 205 in the previous year, 95 were from the Central, 171 from

the Eastern, and 31 from the Western Divisions. Of the whole 297 persons charged, 249 were convicted and 48 discharged. There were 19 civil suits in the Lower Courts. In the Magistrates' Courts for Native Affairs, there were 327 prosecutions for breaches of Native Regulations; 222 in the Central District, 48 in the Eastern, and 57 in the Western. There were 291 convictions, and 36 dismissals. The total number for the preceding year was 214, of whom 190 were convicted and 24 discharged.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

The following tables of cases dealt with by the several Courts of the Possession have been prepared by the Chief Judicial Officer:—

MATTERS DEALT WITH JUDICIALLY DURING THE YEAR
ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1900.

CENTRAL COURT.

Criminal Jurisdiction.

Number of Persons Committed for Trial.	District from which Committed.	Persons Committed— how disposed of.
27	Central District	20 tried. 2 discharged. 5 awaiting trial.
28	Eastern District	24 tried. 3 discharged. 1 awaiting trial.
23	Western District	13 tried. 1 died under com- mittal. 2 sent back to be dealt with summarily. 7 awaiting trial.
—		
Total ... 78		

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

The Central Court held Fifteen Criminal Sessions at the places and times, and with the results undermentioned :—

Number of Persons Tried.	Offence Charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.
<i>Port Moresby—1st August, 1899.</i>			
2	Murder	2 guilty of manslaughter.	2 five years' penal servitude.
<i>Port Moresby—12th August, 1899.</i>			
3	1 murder, 1 assault, 1 breaking gaol.	1 discharged, 1 guilty of assault, 1 guilty of breaking gaol.	1 one year, 1 six months' imprison- ment with hard labour.
<i>Port Moresby—29th August to 1st September, 1899.</i>			
8	7 murder, 1 indecent assault.	7 guilty of man- slaughter, 1 guilty of indecent as- sault.	6 five years' penal servitude, 1 one year, and one 6 months' imprison- ment with hard labour.
<i>Port Moresby—13th October, 1899.</i>			
1	Perjury	1 guilty of perjury	1 nine months' im- prisonment with hard labour.
<i>Daru—21st November to 24th November 1899.</i>			
15	7 murder, 5 indecent assault, 1 wound- ing, 1 arson, 1 larceny.	7 guilty of man- slaughter, 3 guilty and 2 not guilty of indecent assault, 1 guilty of wound- ing, 1 not guilty of arson, 1 guilty of larceny.	6 three years' penal servitude, two 2 years, 2 one year, one six months, and 1 three months' imprison- ment with hard labour.
<i>Port Moresby—29th November, 1899.</i>			
2	Murder	2 not guilty ...	—
<i>Samarai—5th and 6th December, 1899.</i>			
3	2 murder, 1 assault	2 guilty of man- slaughter, 1 guilty of assault.	2 three years' penal servitude, 1 fined £10.

Criminal Sessions—continued.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

Number of Persons Tried.	Offence Charged.	Result of Trial.	Sentence.
	<i>Nivani—8th December, 1899.</i>		
2	1 murder, 1 carnally knowing girl under twelve.	1 guilty of manslaughter, 1 guilty of carnally knowing girl under twelve.	2 two years' imprisonment with hard labour.
	<i>Mukawa—21st December, 1899.</i>		
1	1 murder	1 discharged ...	—
	<i>Mambure—27th to 30th December, 1899.</i>		
2	2 indecent assault	2 guilty of indecent assault.	1 one year, 1 two years' imprisonment with hard labour.
	<i>Samarui—8th January, 1900.</i>		
1	1 wounding ...	1 guilty of wounding	1 one year's imprisonment with hard labour.
	<i>Port Moresby—12th May, 1900.</i>		
6	4 murder, 1 assault, 1 breaking gaol.	4 guilty of manslaughter, 1 guilty of assault, 1 guilty of breaking gaol.	1 two years', 2 one year's, 1 six months', 1 three months', and 1 one month's imprisonment with hard labour.
	<i>Samarai—11th June, 1900.</i>		
1	Murder	1 Guilty of manslaughter.	1 six months' imprisonment with hard labour.
	<i>Nivani—14th June, 1900.</i>		
4	3 Murder, 1 perjury	3 Guilty of manslaughter, 1 discharged.	3 one year's imprisonment with hard labour.
	<i>Port Moresby—26th June, 1900.</i>		
2	2 murder	2 guilty of manslaughter.	2 seven years' penal servitude.
Total 53			

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

Civil Business.

Number of Proceedings.	Nature of Proceedings.
13	Applications by Curator for order to administer intestate estates.
6	Applications for probate and letters of administration.
4	Appeals Warden's Court, Murua Gold Field.
6	Cases for opinion, Murua Gold Field.
2	Appeals Court of Petty Sessions, Northern Division.
1	Appeal Small Debts Court, Eastern Division.
Total 32	...

COURTS OF PETTY SESSIONS.

Indictable Offences Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Inquiry.
Central District	32	21 murder 2 assault 4 breaking gaol 1 indecent assault 1 perjury 7 rape	17 committed, 4 discharged. 2 committed. 4 committed. 1 committed. 1 committed. 2 committed, 5 discharged.
Eastern District	29	12 murder 3 assault 1 indecent assault 1 wounding 5 larceny 3 abduction 1 perjury 1 desecration of sepulchre. 2 carnally knowing girl under 12.	12 committed. 3 committed. 1 committed. 1 committed. 5 committed. 3 committed. 1 committed. 1 committed. 1 committed, 1 discharged.
Western District	23	9 murder 6 indecent assault 2 assault 3 wounding 1 larceny 1 arson 1 rape	9 committed. 6 committed. 2 committed. 3 committed. 1 committed. 1 committed. 1 committed.
Total ...	84		

Summary Offences Jurisdiction.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Trial.
Central	95	26 assault 27 larceny 16 breach of Con- stabulary Ordi- nance. 4 breach of Labour Ordinance. 13 breach of Prisons Ordinance. 1 breach of Arms and Liquor Ordi- nance. 1 obscene language 2 threatening language. 2 trespass 3 breach of Mer- chant Shipping Acts.	14 convicted, 12 dismissed. 17 convicted, 10 dismissed. 14 convicted, 2 dismissed. 4 convicted. 10 convicted, 3 dismissed. 1 dismissed. 1 convicted. 2 convicted. 2 convicted. 3 convicted.
Eastern	171	39 breach of Labour Ordinance. 67 larceny 2 destroying pro- perty. 13 breach of Arms and Constabulary Ordinance. 42 assault 3 breach of Prisons Ordinance. 1 threatening language. 2 drunk and dis- orderly. 2 breach of Arms and Liquor Ordi- nance.	36 convicted, 3 dismissed. 63 convicted, 4 dismissed. 2 convicted. 12 convicted, 1 dismissed. 37 convicted, 5 dismissed. 3 convicted. 1 convicted. 2 convicted. 2 convicted.
Western	31	15 breach of Labour Ordinance. 5 larceny 10 assault 1 breach of Con- stabulary Ordi- nance.	11 convicted, 4 dismissed. 2 convicted, 3 dismissed. 10 convicted. 1 convicted.
Total	297		

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899–1900.

Civil Jurisdiction.

District of Court.	Number of Actions Tried.	Nature of Action.	Result of Action.
Central... ..	3	3 debt	3 verdict for plaintiff.
Eastern... ..	9	8 debt 1 damages	5 verdict for plaintiff, 1 verdict for defendant, 2 settled out of court. 1 settled out of court.
Western	7	7 debt	7 verdict for plaintiff.
Total	19		

NATIVE MAGISTRATES' COURTS.

Criminal Jurisdiction (Forbidden Acts).

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Trial.
No. 2 (Central)	222	4 spreading lying reports. 2 threatening lan- guage. 57 larceny 36 assault 12 perjury 1 extortion 11 adultery... .. 13 sorcery 5 injury to persons 57 breach of Roads Regulation. 8 breach of Carriers Regulation. 12 breach of Burials Regulation. 4 disobeying magis- trates' orders.	4 convicted. 2 convicted. 56 convicted, 1 discharged. 35 convicted, 1 discharged. 12 convicted. 1 convicted. 10 convicted, 1 discharged. 7 convicted, 6 discharged. 2 convicted, 3 discharged 57 convicted. 8 convicted. 12 convicted. 4 convicted.

Criminal Jurisdiction (Forbidden Acts)—continued.BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.
—

District of Court.	Number of Persons Charged.	Nature of Charge.	Result of Trial.
No. 3 (Eastern)	48	28 adultery... .. 1 breach of De- struction of Co- conut Regula- tion. 3 disobeying magi- strates' orders. 2 perjury 3 extortion 9 sorcery 1 larceny 1 assault	23 convicted, 5 discharged, 1 convicted. 3 convicted. 2 convicted. 3 convicted. 5 convicted, 4 discharged. 1 convicted. 1 convicted.
No. 1 (Western)	57	40 adultery 8 assault 3 sorcery 2 spreading lying reports. 4 threatening lan- guage.	26 convicted, 14 dis- charged. 7 convicted, 1 discharged. 3 convicted. 2 convicted. 4 convicted.
Total ...	327		

Civil Jurisdiction (Civil Claims).

District of Court.	Number of Actions Tried.	Nature of Claim.	Result of Action.
No. 2 (Central)	11	7 debt 4 damages for in- juring property.	Verdict for complainant. Verdict for complainant.
No. 3 (Eastern)	1	1 damages	Verdict for complainant.
No. 1 (Western)	Nil.		
Total ...	12		

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900

Total Number of Criminal Proceedings.

Proceedings.	Number.
In Central Court	78
In Courts of Petty Sessions (exclusive of 78 cases sent up to Central Court).	303
In Native Magistrates' Courts	327
In all Courts	708

Total Number of Civil Proceedings.

Proceedings.	Number.
In Central Court	32
In Courts of Petty Sessions	19
In Native Magistrates' Courts	12
In all Courts	63

VISITS OF INSPECTION.

The Lieutenant-Governor returned from Australia on 13th November, 1899, and on the 19th left for Daru and the west in the "Merrie England." From Daru a trip was made along the coast in the small steam launch and two whaleboats, while the steamer went to Thursday Island. Saibai and Boigu, islands inside the Queensland boundary, within a stone's throw of these shores, were visited on the way to Bugi, the furthest Government station on the west, on the Mai Kussa part of the wide channel which forms Strachan Island. There had been an unfortunate collision, attended with loss of life, between the native constabulary at Bugi and an inland tribe, Dimiri, in which several of the latter were killed or wounded. A story had been circulated by the London Missionary Society teacher at Saibai on, as he stated, accounts given by the mainland natives to the Saibai people, that the police had been guilty of gross treachery in pretending to have a religious service in the Dimiri village, which they had gone to visit in a friendly way, and had shot

down the villagers unawares. A careful inquiry was made into the case by Captain Barton, the Acting Commandant of the Constabulary (Captain Butterworth being away on leave, and subsequently at the time of writing employed as an officer of the Queensland Contingent of the Imperial Bushmen in South Africa); and it is satisfactory to be able to say that the story was proved to have been absolutely false, the facts being, as was admitted by one of the leading Dimiri men who came to Bugi to meet the Lieutenant-Governor later, after a second collision with the police, that both attacks were entirely unprovoked, and were ordered by the chief, who lost his life in the second one. As there were rumours that the Tugeri head hunters from Dutch New Guinea had been seen or heard of in the neighbourhood, the number of constabulary at Bugi was increased from six to eight; this detail is only mentioned to show with what slender resources the work of protecting these far-away remnants of cruelly depopulated tribes, otherwise completely at the mercy of these savage marauders, has to be effected; the result has been satisfactory as far as the vicinity of the Government Station at Bugi is concerned, for no attack has been made on it or the people sheltering under its protection; but there have been two or more disastrous raids by the Tugeri on the natives on the Morehead River since the time of this visit, the first of which falls within the period under report, and which will be mentioned later.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

Eastern Division and South-Eastern.

The Lieutenant-Governor returned to Port Moresby on 28th November, and left again, accompanied by His Honour Mr. F. Winter, C.J.O., on the 2nd December for the east. At Samarai Dr. Cecil Vaughan was appointed to act as Medical Officer and Assistant Magistrate of the Eastern, North-East, and Northern Districts, and joined the "Merrie England" on her trip. The Conflict Group of islets, which is under lease to Mr. Wickham, was visited on the way to Nivani, the headquarters of the Resident Magistrate of the South-Eastern Division. From Nivani the party went to Misima (St. Aignans), the Lachlan Islands, which had not been visited by the "Merrie England" for several years, and from there to Woodlark Island, where the two goldfields at Kulumedau and Busai were visited. It was decided that mining leases should not for the present be granted at Busai, as it was still an alluvial field, but on a subsequent visit this decision was altered, and the field opened for leases, as at Kulumedau. As there was considerable confusion about the boundaries of the mining leases, and no possibility of getting them settled without proper surveys, an attempt to do so was made by the appointment of a private surveyor from Samarai, but the result was not satisfactory, and other

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

arrangements had subsequently to be made by employing a partially qualified surveyor on the work. This proved much more satisfactory, and at the time of writing this Report one of the new staff of Government surveyors has gone there. The Trobriands Group were next visited, and a meeting was arranged by Mr. Moreton, Resident Magistrate for the Eastern Division, with the help of Rev. Mr. Fellows, of the Wesleyan Mission, at Kavatari, at which the chiefs and principal men concerned in the rising against Enamakala and the attack on Mr. Moreton, described in last year's Annual Report, were present. Enamakala himself was unable, owing to ill-health, to come to the meeting, and although he was subsequently restored to his position, and his village rebuilt and proper amends made by the offending persons, he never recovered the effects of his temporary deposition, and the Government has learnt with regret that he has since died. The chiefs were very strongly cautioned about their behaviour in the future, and they promised obedience, but the large population of that group is so unstable that it will soon be necessary to station a Government officer and some constabulary there. Since the visit in question was made they have been fighting and spearing each other about fish.

Northern Division.

From the Trobriands Islands the steamer went to the north-east coast, visiting on the way the Amphlett Group; the Wesleyan Mission Station at Bwoidoga, on Goodenough Island, in charge of the Rev. Mr. Fletcher; and also the Anglican Mission Station at Mukawa, on Cape Vogel. The mouth of the Mambare was reached on 23rd December, and Christmas Day was spent on the river. Tamata Station was reached the following day. There had been a gathering of natives there for sports and dances, and several canoes were met on their way home with gorgeously decked crews in full panoply of feathers and paint, a great contrast to the few people met on the visit to the river the year before. The Anglican Mission have established a station at Umi Village, a little below the junction of the Tamata Creek with the Mambare. The Rev. Mr. Hines was there at the time of this visit, but was in very bad health. His place has since been temporarily filled by the Rev. Copland King, who has done so much service for the Mission. The natives are settling down quietly on the river, and planting large gardens; they sell a quantity of food to the Europeans at Tamata. The "Merrie England" left on her way back on the 30th, and anchored off the mouth of the Opi, where a visit was paid to Tabe, the chief of Koila. Cape Nelson was reached on the following day.

It had been decided to establish a Government Station on this Cape, which commands the coast from the mouth of the Musa to

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.
—

the south of Collingwood Bay, and would form a most useful halfway stopping-place between Samarai and the Mambare. It was quite time that something was done to keep the large population of the fjords, who were the terror of the coast, under control, which was impossible without stationing a magistrate there, for they were out of reach of either the magistrate at Samarai or Mambare, and the place was now thoroughly inspected with a view to selecting the site for the station. The steamer was taken right to the head of several of the long deep fjords especially to afford the natives an object lesson, as they probably thought that their water fastnesses were accessible only to their canoes. Friendly intercourse was established with them at each part of the Cape which was visited. At only one place was any hostility shown, the fighting men grouping themselves on the tops of the commanding points and rocks armed with very long spears, but there was no collision, and they eventually came to barter sugar-cane and native food for tobacco, like the rest. A good site was selected on one of the sloping promontories facing due east and about the centre of the Cape, which consists of a number of these finger-like points of the spurs from the volcanic peak of Mount Trafalgar, beginning to the south of Porlock Harbour on the north, and gradually circling round to the northern end of Collingwood Bay on the south. There is likely to be a good future for Cape Nelson if the Possession is developed in that direction. It will be the natural centre for the trade of the Musa and Kumusi Rivers. It possesses good harbours, fresh water in abundance, and good planting and grazing land. The formation of the promontories lends itself especially favourably to the latter, as it would only be necessary to fence across the head of the tongue of land, the sea affording a natural boundary for the rest. The natives of the part selected for the station were informed that the Government intended to establish one there with a Resident Magistrate, and that they would be paid for any land taken by it for the purpose. After raising various objections they were left with the assurance that the Government meant what it said, and that when the "Merrie England" returned she would bring the magistrate to stay. The Rev. Mr. Abbot, of the Anglican Mission at Wanigela, in Collingwood Bay, was of great assistance, and got a comfortable native house put up for the magistrate before he arrived. Proceeding south, Goodenough Bay was visited. The Anglican Mission stations at Boiana in the bay and the head station of the mission at Wedau in Bartle Bay and Taupota were visited. Sewa Bay, a large landlocked harbour on the west side of Normanby Island, was inspected with a view to its possible utilisation for a township in the east, which is so much wanted to relieve little overgrown Samarai. It is to be feared that it will be found to be too much out of the way. The harbour is certainly a magnificent one, and there is plenty of land for a township. Expert advice should

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

be taken as to its entrance and approach from the sea for sailing vessels in all weathers, which is of the greatest importance in selecting sites for townships on the sea.

Western Division (Morehead River).

The Lieutenant-Governor returned to Port Moresby on 9th January, and left again on 10th February for the west, the "Merrie England" having in meantime been sent over to Cooktown for mails, &c., and arrived at Daru 12th February; after settling the necessary work in hand there, the steamer proceeded to Dauan Island, the last of the high, volcanic-peaked, boulder-covered islands that reach from Cape York to the edge of the flat shores of South-West New Guinea. Like Saibai and Boigu on either hand it is still part of Queensland, but is within the promised rectification of the boundary, which, having received the approving Order of the Queen in Council, is still waiting for the Government of Queensland to pass the necessary Act (*see Annual Report, 1897-98, p. xlii.*). As the object of the expedition was to search the coast and the Morehead River for the Tugeri, who had been heard of there, the steamer was left at Dauan; and the party proceeded with the large launch "Ruby" and four boats on 16th, with 33 armed native constabulary. Mr. English, the Government Agent of the Rigo District, who had been appointed to act temporarily as Resident Magistrate of the Western District, and Captain Barton, Commandant, A.N.C., accompanied the Lieutenant-Governor. After patrolling the Wassi Kussa and the Maikussa, and finding only traces of Tugeri camps, the party went on to the Morehead, experiencing the same difficulty in finding its mouth as Sir W. McGregor had done on his first visit there. The river was ascended about 70 miles before any natives were seen; although several recent Tugeri camps were found, it was evident that they had left the river. It was found that they had made a successful raid about six weeks before, and gone away with their victims' heads and women and children captives. Natives were seen on the right bank on the third day, remnants of the Toibaba tribe; they had been visited by Sir W. McGregor, and were most friendly. Detailed information was obtained from them of the massacre of the Sanana people, which was forwarded in a separate report with the object of special representations being made through the proper channels to the Government of the Netherlands, which, it is satisfactory to say, had or helped to produce a good effect, for they have quite recently sent their own Resident to make inquiry into the subject of these raids—one occurred actually on the river a few days before he and the Magistrate of the Western Division (Mr. Murray) got there, and they found fifteen headless bodies of the Tugaribio people, who camped with the Government party on their visit now under report; but this matter

as well as the description of the fight between Mr. Murray's boat's crew of six native constables against a force of Tugeri canoes, in which they captured or sank five canoes and routed the enemy, will belong to next year's report. The party proceeded one day further up the river, when the "Ruby" broke down, and then returned to Bugi, and finally rejoined the "Merrie England" at Dauan on 5th March, after an absence of 17 days occupied on most interesting duty. The steamer then proceeded to Thursday Island for coal, &c., and returned to Daru on 11th March.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

Western Division (Fly Estuary).

On the 13th the Lieutenant-Governor and party left with the steam launch "Ruby," which had been sent direct from Dauan to Daru, and two boats, for the estuary of the Fly River, and arrived that evening at Saguane, the headquarters of the London Missionary Society Mission in the west. Here they were very kindly welcomed by the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers, the latter of whom has since died, to the regret of all who knew her; and the whole Possession sympathises with her universally respected husband. The school was inspected with very satisfactory result. Mr. Chalmers had decided on removing the Mission Station to Daru; Saguane is rapidly disappearing before the encroaching water, and from what was observed at all the places on Kiwai Island it seems likely that the whole island will ultimately share the same fate. From Kiwai Island the party went to the village of Baramura, on the mainland, where there had been a slight collision between the villagers and some of the boat's crew from the Mission Station at Saguane, who had apparently provoked the resentment of the villagers by trying to get one of their idols. One boy had been slightly wounded by an arrow, and they had decamped leaving their boat behind. A native constable, who happened to be on leave near there, and a village policeman from one of the Kiwai villages, settled the matter, got back the boat, and nothing was probably needed but a cautionary visit from the Magistrate when an opportunity should occur. Instead of this the officer then at Daru (since left the service) proceeded with an armed force to Baramura, the villagers fled; he burned the long "dubu" or communal dwelling, a building over 600 feet in length, capable of accommodating probably 300 inhabitants, three other detached houses, killed the pigs, and made an address to those present on the example he had made in the name of the Government. After a little while, very friendly relations were established with the chief and his people, and some tools were given them to assist them in rebuilding their village. From Kiwai the party returned to Daru, and from there visited Parama Village, on Bampton Island, and a large new village which is being built on the site of old Ma-watta on the mainland side of Bampton Passage. They returned to Port Moresby on 23rd March.

e9987

B 2

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
99-1900

North-Eastern Division (Cape Nelson).

On the 30th March the Lieutenant-Governor left Port Moresby to establish the Government Station on Cape Nelson, and arrived there with Mr. Monckton, who had been appointed to be Resident Magistrate for the North-Eastern Division, on 4th April; Mr. Abbot had had a good native house built on the site chosen for the Government reserve. The Government flag was hoisted, and the Magistrate left with a small force of constabulary to sow the first seeds of law and order amongst the spearmen of the fjords and fells. It is satisfactory to know that the authority of the Government has been quietly and successfully impressed on them, and in spite of some signs of hostility the natives have evidently recognised that it is best to be on good terms with it. The boundaries of the North-Eastern District are from Cape Vogel on the south to Cape Endaiadere on the north, a coast-line of about 150 miles; the district also includes the interior, but it has been arranged that the river system of the Kumusi River which flows into the Northern District shall, together with the tribes along its whole course, be considered as wholly in the Northern District.

As it was found that one of the most prominent peaks of Mount Trafalgar was still unnamed on the chart, it has been called "Mount Britannia" after the flagship of Lord Nelson's second in command at the great naval victory. The great mountain on the north-east coast, on that side of Mount Suckling, and lying to the south-east of Cape Nelson, known by its native name as "Goropu," has been named "Mount McGregor," after the distinguished late Lieutenant-Governor, whose intrepid explorations of the mountains of the interior most certainly entitle his name to be recorded in one of the finest of them. The party returned to Port Moresby on 12th April.

While the "Merrie England" was away at Cooktown a visit was made to the Laloki and Brown Rivers, with Mr. Ballantine, the Assistant Resident Magistrate, and Mr. McDonald, the Overseer of Works. Several of the mountain chiefs from the interior between the Astrolabe and the main range, some of whom had not been to Port Moresby before, visited the Lieutenant-Governor at Government House.

Central, Eastern, and South-Eastern Divisions.

On 22nd May the Lieutenant-Governor, with his Honour Judge Winter and Mr. Russell, Chief Government Surveyor, left in the "Merrie England" for the east, and were present with several others at a very interesting ceremony at the opening of the new memorial church which has been erected by the London Missionary Society to the memory of the native teachers of the Mission who came to New Guinea, and who have died during the 25 years that the Mission has been established here.

The Government Station at Rigo was inspected, and three of the villages inland; and then the "Merrie England" continued her cruise along the coast. Hula was visited, and the disputed boundary between the lands of Hula and Babaka people was decided. At Kerepunu the party were hospitably entertained by the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Pearse, of the London Missionary Society, and visited several of the villages on Hood Lagoon; from there the villages of Aroma district in Keakaro Bay were visited, and Vilirupu and Marshall's Lagoon, and the Imilai River. Chesthunt Bay and Mawi River were next visited; from there they went to Cloudy Bay and Table Bay, the meeting point of the Central and Eastern Districts. It will be necessary to form a Government Station and Sub-district somewhere along the coast to the east of the Rigo District, for there is nothing between that and Samarai, 220 miles away. The Amazon Islands and Mailu (Toulon Island) at the western end of the Eastern District were visited, and from there Milport Bay and Mullens Harbour, and Fyfe Bay, where three murders of women were reported; and it was settled that Captain Barton and the Resident Magistrate, Mr. Moreton, should return there about them. The party went on to Suau and Modeiwa Bay, and arrived at Samarai on 8th June.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900

They left for the South-Eastern District on the 13th, calling at Bentley Island, and arrived at Nivani the following day. Accompanied by Mr. Campbell, the Resident Magistrate, the Lieutenant-Governor went to the Wesleyan Mission Station at Panaeti in charge of Mr. Williams, and rejoined the steamer on her way to Misima (St. Aignans) and Woodlark Island. Mr. Bramell, the new Warden, had made a good house at the head of the harbour, which affords a much better approach to Kulumedau than by the creek of that name. Mr. Russell was left on the goldfield to arrange the surveys of the mining claims, which had, as has been said above, got into great confusion. It was decided to open Busai field to leases. The party returned to Samarai on 19th, and left for Port Moresby on the same day, and arrived on the following evening.

Eastern and North-Eastern Divisions.

The "Merrie England" went over to Cooktown, and meanwhile the Lieutenant-Governor visited, in company with Mr. Ballantine, Assistant Resident Magistrate, the villages between Redscar Head and Port Moresby. The steamer returned on the 2nd July, and the Lieutenant-Governor left again with his Honour (now Sir) Francis Winter for Samarai on 4th, calling at Fyfe Bay for Captain Barton, who had been successful in arresting some of the persons implicated in the murders of the women that have been alluded to. The party left Samarai on the 7th for the North-East Coast, calling at Wedau and Cape Vogel,

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

and arrived at Cape Nelson on 9th. Mr. Monckton had made considerable progress with his station. He had had some trouble with the natives, who had drugged his men with some kind of narcotic, and at one time it looked as if the station would be rushed, but by a firm front and patience a collision was averted, and when the "Merrie England" arrived the natives were quite friendly. A trader had just been assaulted and robbed on board a small cutter by the people of the Winiapi tribe at one of the inlets on the south side of the cape. The steam launch and a couple of boats went to the place, and the party were successful in arresting two of the chiefs of the implicated tribe, whom it was decided to keep under detention at the station until the stolen property was returned and the principal person implicated in the assault on the trader was given up. On the 10th July the party left for Mambare, and arrived at Tamata Station on the 13th. The station had been wonderfully improved and brightened up by Mr. Rohu, a naturalist, who had been acting for Mr. Elliott as European officer in charge of the station under the Magistrate. Tamata was left again on the morning of the 14th, and the ship was reached the same evening, and left again for Cape Nelson on the following morning, having on board Busimaiwa, the Duvira chief, who was in trouble for making war on his own account against his Gira neighbours and for escaping from custody at Tamata Station, where the Magistrate had confined him. He had surrendered himself to Captain Barton, and was tried by his Honour the Judge, and was sentenced to a short term of imprisonment, which it was directed by the Lieutenant-Governor should take the form of detention under surveillance of the Magistrate at Cape Nelson. On the way Holnicote Bay, or rather the southern end of it known as Gona Bay, was visited, and, although the people were frightened at first, friendly relations with them were established. The steamer arrived at Cape Nelson on 16th; it was found that all the property stolen from the trader had been returned, on which one of the two Winiapi chiefs was ordered to be released and the other as soon as the ringleader in the assault was given up. The man in question was on the point of spearing the trader, but was stopped by the others, who said that it would bring the Government police on them; it is satisfactory to know that already they have begun to realise that there is a stronger power in that little handful of men under the solitary white officer in the native house with the blue ensign on the far side of the Cape. But for that, the trader would, as he believed, have certainly lost his life. It is most probable that they did not think the Government would concern itself in such a matter as the taking of a few articles of trade, and an old rifle (with one cartridge), which constituted the stock-in-trade and the weapons of defence of an itinerant white buyer of pearl-shell; and the return of all the articles was a good sign of their respect for the new power amongst them. The opportunity had for a long time

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

been wanted for visiting Oro Bay, the scene of Dr. Loria's raid in the pursuit of science, which had led most probably to the attack on Mr. Elliott's party there in 1898; it was therefore now visited, and, after a little while, very friendly communication was established with the people. A visit was also made to the village of the warlike tribe "Okein," on the north side of the Cape, and friendly intercourse established with them. Cape Nelson was left on 19th, with a strong feeling of satisfaction with the progress that had been made in the three months since the establishment of the station there. Calling at Cape Vogel, the party next went to Dobu, the headquarters of the Wesleyan Mission, under the Rev Mr. Bromilow; from there to Samarai, from which the "Merrie England" went to fetch Mr. Russell from Woodlark, meeting him at sea on the way; he had been successful in starting the mining surveys on a better line. In the interval visits were made to the London Mission Society training school at Kwato; Mr. and Mrs. Abel, however, were away in England; and to Sariba, an adjacent island, where Mr. Meek is establishing live-stock, which thrive wonderfully well on the grass there. There had been further trouble at the Trobriands, some people having been killed in a fight about fish, to which allusion has been made. The party returned to Port Moresby on the 28th July.

While the Government party had been away there had been a massacre in the interior, on the Kemp Welsh River, where the people of Seremina had killed eighteen of the Korohi tribe. Mr. Ballantine had very promptly proceeded there with such police as were available, and succeeded in arresting the chief of Seremina; his people expressed surprise at the Government having taken any notice of it, and said if they had known that it would have done so, they would not have attacked the Korohi. It is a source of satisfaction to mark the material progress which has been made in the spread of the authority of the Government in the various parts of the Possession during the past year. It has been an unfortunate one for the people. Owing to the introduction into Samarai from Cooktown of the whooping-cough by two white children, the vessel having a clean bill of health, though the sickness was rife at Cooktown at the time, lives innumerable have been, and are being, sacrificed to a blunder which may be compared to the fatal introduction of measles, "a child's complaint," into Fiji, resulting in an estimated loss of 40,000 natives. In this case, unfortunately, there was no medical officer at Samarai, and no one realised the danger; from that centre of traffic in the east the malady spread with frightful rapidity, and swept first the coasts and is now ravaging the interior. But the mischief does not end there, for as each village is attacked, and as no death can in the belief of the native be the result of any natural cause but must have been compassed by some unknown enemy who can only be discovered by witchcraft, the sorcerer is at once consulted, and some

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

unfortunate village of some other tribe is designated as the culprit, and a midnight massacre of innocent people is the result. This was the actual experience of Captain Barton and Mr. English on a recent expedition inland to the head waters of the Kemp Welsh. There was a severe drought in parts of the Possession which told seriously on the food supply and left the people less able to withstand the epidemics of pleurisy and pneumonia which often accompany the change of season here; the list of victims to these was unusually high this year.

It was again, unfortunately, not possible to visit Mekeo District this year before the Lieutenant-Governor left for the annual official visit to Brisbane.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS.

Central Division.

In the Annual Report of last year mention was made of the robbing of a party of the Members of the Sacred Heart Mission in the interior of the Mekeo District by a mountain tribe which had not been visited before. It was thought advisable that a Government party should go there, and on 15th July Dr. Blayney, the resident magistrate of the Central Division, accompanied by Mr. Giulianetti, the Government agent of the Mekeo District, and 12 native constabulary, proceeded inland from Hall Sound to the Mafula and Iaroga districts, in the first of which the robbery had taken place and the chief of Iarogo had murdered one of his wives. Dr. Blayney's report of the expedition is full of interesting details. They had very hard work in the broken mountainous country which they traversed. On August 2nd they reached their highest points, 6,140 feet, near which "we saw the playground of the bowerbird (photograph taken), snowdrops, and orchids," and the next day passed the spot where the mission party had been robbed, and came in sight of Mafula villages; an advance party of constables was sent on with orders to arrest any one they found in the village, and on the arrival of the magistrate he found a prisoner in handcuffs; the police were searching the gardens, and shortly afterwards shots were heard at a village, Chivua, some distance off, and the natives were seen running away from it. The police reported afterwards that on their arrival at the village they were attacked with spears and clubs and had to shoot in self defence. Some more arrests were made, and messages sent to tell the people that the object of the visit was to recover the stolen property, and that no one coming to bring food to the party or to return any of the stolen articles would be arrested, but that anyone who was seen with a spear would be. Some of the lost articles were found in the village. Early the next morning the party had an alarm from finding that the natives had crept up to

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

within 50 yards of the camp without being observed by the sentries. On some shots being fired they retired a short distance into the scrub. The Chivua people seem to have been the most troublesome. One of the corporals who got separated from his party was attacked in the bed of the creek by five men, one of whom threw his spear at him, on which the corporal shot him, and the others decamped; another corporal had been attacked with his party by the Kenedama people and had to shoot four in self defence; they were evidently quite ignorant of the power or effect of firearms. The Chivua people then sent a message to say that they wanted to return the stolen property and make peace. They brought some of the property, and a present was given them in return for food, and every effort made to induce their chief to come into the camp. The Kenedama continued hostile, and their villages were visited and searched. The Government party then visited the Chivua village and saw the chief. Many of the people were plastered with mud as a sign of mourning for one of the chiefs who had been shot. His body was seen placed in the fork of a large tree, boxed in with planks, and his bamboo pipe, tomahawk, perineal band, &c., hung in front of it. Dr. Blayney remarks that the males wear a broad perineal band, that of the females being narrow and plaited. A corporal and party were sent to visit Kopuna village, on the summit of a hill to the south-east of the camp, with a message to the people to come in and make friends. From the camp the villagers were seen preparing to give the police a hostile reception. They had to fire at one of the villagers, who was wounded in the arm, and ran away. The Chivua chief visited the camp with some of his people, and a message was sent through him to the Kopuna people. The weather was continuously wet and the party broke camp on the 14th August. On one of the drizzling mornings the phenomenon of the Hartz Mountains, known as "The Spectre of the Brocken," was seen. Four prisoners who had been arrested were taken away, it being explained that they would be taken to Port Moresby to see the Governor and would be soon sent back. On the 18th, however, two of the prisoners escaped, an attempt on the part of the other two being unsuccessful; and the following day the senior corporal was sent back to Mafula with nine constables and some carriers, with orders to arrest six Mafula men as hostages for the two that had escaped. This was a very doubtful act of discretion, and the result was most unfortunate. The corporal arrived at the village but found no Mafula people to arrest, so advantage was taken of the presence there of some of the friendly Chivua to arrest six of them instead. No doubt the native corporal thought he was only carrying out his orders. The Chivua villagers were not unnaturally greatly excited at seeing such a gross piece of treachery, as it would undoubtedly appear to them, perpetrated by the Government people with whom they had been induced to make friends, and to supply them with

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

food; and they at once retaliated, gathering supports from the other villages close to. The police were surrounded and attacked both in the village and on their way back to the main party; at least six of the natives were shot before they finally retreated. The corporal rejoined the magistrate on 25th. A carrier was lost on the return journey, and it was thought that he would probably be killed and eaten; search was made for him without success. On reaching Hiba a message was sent to the chief of Iarogo, who was wanted for the murder of his wife, to come, and in the meantime it was decided to go on to Sekuba on the Upper Vanappa, to inquire into a murder reported to have been committed by the Sekuba and Iritiomone natives. Sekuba was reached on 29th August. It was found on inquiry that about three months before the natives of Iritiomone had caught a Sekuba native while fishing near the native suspension bridge over the Vanappa, and had killed him to avenge the killing of one of their own people a long time ago. The Sekuba people then cut the suspension bridge down, since which they have not been on friendly terms. Dr. Blayney decided to visit Iritiomone and bring about peace between the villagers, but was unable to effect a crossing over the Vanappa, the suspension bridge being broken, and after several unsuccessful attempts to bridge it by felling trees, in one of which a constable got his ribs broken on the far side, and was with great difficulty got back, the party had to return to Sekuba. Communication was, however, eventually secured with the Iritiomone by sending a party of police who crossed the river by a raft. They returned with some of the villagers but the chief was too frightened to come. An inquiry was held into the killing of the Sekuba native, and the magistrate explained that the Government no longer permitted retaliatory murders, but that as this was the first case against them there would be no arrests. The peace-making ceremony, which is described in Dr. Blayney's Report, was gone through, and the two tribes made friends again to their mutual satisfaction. A rather amusing incident occurred on their way down the river, when the chief of Karama with several of his men met them; he had seen Mr. Giulianetti before and was greatly delighted on seeing him again, but he was much disappointed when he learnt that they were not going to visit his village. "I have killed no one, and yet you won't come to see me"; he was promised a visit at a near date. Dr. Blayney mentions that a woodcock flew over their camp one morning. On the 4th September, seven of the eight prisoners (two of the four originally arrested at Mafula, and the six Chivua hostages) were discovered to be missing when their guards woke; the eighth was caught in the act of freeing himself. They had experienced little difficulty; fortune had been most kind; the guards had taken their belts off preparatory to going to sleep and hung them within reach of the prisoners; the keys of their handcuffs lay inside the unbuttoned flap of their pouch; the rest was a matter of ease. The

seventh man evidently did not behave well or he would have freed the remaining one who, unfortunately, was just a minute too late. Nothing was seen of the fugitives, a finale to an affair which was very unfortunate from beginning to end. Dr. Blayney describes some of the journey back as the worst he has had in the Possession. At one village a small house just large enough for one man was found in which anyone who gets sick isolates himself from his neighbours—a peculiar form of quarantine amongst natives.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

On 12th the party reached Hall Sound. The weather had been very unfavourable for collecting; the botanical specimens were lost or irreparably damaged in the flooded rivers; a few ornithological specimens in very good order were brought to Port Moresby and forwarded to the British Museum; there were, however, no new species in the collection. It was also very unfortunate that Mr. Giulianetti's photographic plates were spoilt by the wet.

The solitary prisoner was handed over to the head gaoler, but he was allowed to remain at large, and shortly taken back to Mafula to explain that the six Chivua men had been arrested by mistake, and to make some amends for the loss of life which unfortunately had resulted from it. On the whole, however, this expedition to a part hitherto untouched by the Government will have had a very good effect.

In November an expedition was made by Dr. Blayney and Mr. English to the interior of the Cloudy Bay District; the watershed of two rivers, one flowing north-east, the other south-east, was crossed, and it was surmised that the former of these (Kevela) runs into the Adau, and that the Adau cuts through a gap in the Main Range between Mount Suckling and Mount Clarence, and finally joins the Musa (north-east coast). This has been since found to be the case. Visits were made to part of the Gulf districts, and one of the mouths of the Purari River was ascended, and the Maipua and Apiope villages visited. The powerful Koriki tribe was left for a future visit with a sufficient force in case of such a collision as occurred with them on the occasion of Sir William McGregor's visit there in 1894.

An expedition was also made by Dr. Blayney to the district behind Vilirupu, where the murder of some of the Oluone people by the Toabure natives had been reported to the Lieutenant-Governor on his visit to Vilirupu. The Magistrate was not successful in making any arrests.

Rigo District (Central Division).

Mr. English, the Government Agent of the district, was appointed to act as Resident Magistrate of the Western Division in the beginning of the year, and did not return to it until

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

after June. His duties were performed satisfactorily by Mr. G. English, his cousin. A considerable amount of improvement to the roads was effected, especially by rebuilding a bridge over a difficult creek between the Mission Station at Vatorata and the landing at Kappa Kappa, so that "now even in the wet season one can drive up to the Mission Station." Hitherto the road was a regular quagmire, and impassable during the wet season; two other bridges will have to be rebuilt before the road can be called finished. The work at the Government Station is difficult owing to the want of prisoners; Dr. Blayney says "the local natives respect the law to such an extent that there are practically no local prisoners," a tribute not only to the good behaviour of the people, but also to the administration of the law by the district officers. The people of the marine villages at Kappa Kappa, although law-abiding, are notorious for their indifference and unwillingness to do anything for their own improvement or to assist others in anything. It was remarkable that, although they have had the benefit of the peace and order which the Mission has afforded them for many years, they were the only ones who never lent a hand's turn towards the erection of the memorial church at Vatorata, at their very doors.

The report of the Government Agent states that the coast tribes had been quiet and on good terms with their neighbours and with white men going inland, but that there had been several murderous raids committed inland as well as single murders, and that there had been a great deal of sickness amongst the natives.

An expedition was made in July, 1899, with the Commandant of the Constabulary, to the back of Cloudy Bay, to arrest the Barua murderers of some of the people of Huwai; three arrests were made. On 15th August the Government Agent made a trip to the Seme and Dagota tribes to make some arrests, but was unsuccessful; "the country was," he says, "dreadfully rough, and the natives able to see a party moving about hours before their villages could be reached."

On 14th November the Government Agent accompanied the Resident Magistrate on another expedition to the back of Cloudy Bay, in consequence of a raid by the natives of Keveri on the Barua people. Mr. English thus describes the Keveri Valley: "A walk of three days (from the Barua country) over rough country and high mountains took us across the main range into a magnificent valley, ten by fifteen miles, of undulating open grass country. . . . The valley is a most healthy one and well adapted for European settlement, well watered, and good pasture country. The two main sources of the Musa River run through the valley, the 'Wavela' and the 'Adau.' The former we prospected in a few places, but no traces of gold were to be found." Mr. English reports that there has been very little

trading in the district, and a great falling off in the indiarubber and marine products during the year, owing to the laziness of the natives, who will not work unless forced to do so.

Mr. G. F. English, who acted as Government Agent while Mr. A. English was in the west, reports that on the 19th June he accompanied the resident magistrate to Mekanigoro in the Kemp Welsh District, to the south-east of Mount Shillinglaw, the people of that place having been reported to have killed some of the Taboro tribe. The expedition was successful, and several arrests were made; five prisoners were taken to Port Moresby. On the return of the party to Rigo they received the report of the massacre of the Ihovi people by the Demori tribe.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900

Mr. English draws attention to an evil which is growing amongst the native population. The young men are getting into the habit of marrying young girls for a time, getting back the trade they gave the parents, and casting the girl adrift, with lamentable consequences to her, and repeating the process as often as they are able. This would not have been possible under the old native customs, which had their own sanction for offences against the social good order of the community. Now that the laws of civilisation have been introduced and have not substituted anything for the old custom which in its rough-and-ready way afforded protection against offenders of this kind, there will be great danger that where custom is set at defiance and the law exacts no penalty, the respect for both, which is natural to the native, will be undermined, and ultimately destroyed. It is impossible to be too careful that this does not become the result of changing the old order of things in native communities without providing a proper substitute in the new. The subject is one which is receiving the attention of the Government.

Mekeo District (Central Division).

Mr. Giulianetti, the Government Agent of the Mekeo District, in his report, gives a short and interesting summary of his first expedition with Dr. Blayney, Resident Magistrate, to the Mafula and upper St. Joseph country. In consequence of the unfortunate occurrence of the arrest of the Chivua natives at Mafula, Mr. Giulianetti was directed to make a second trip there and explain matters, otherwise there would have been every probability of the good effects of the expedition being, to say the least of it, neutralised; and he left Hall Sound again on 13th November, taking with him the one prisoner who had failed to make his escape. They arrived at their destination on 25th. A number of natives were present to meet them, but the Chivua people were at first suspicious, as was not unnatural. The wife of the returned prisoner was in mourning for him; their meeting,

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

Mr. Giulianetti says, was singularly undemonstrative. He saw two of the men who had escaped from custody on the first expedition, and learnt that they had all got home but one, who fractured his arm in trying to get his handcuff off and had died of the injury. Mr. Giulianetti stayed ten days at Mafula, and was completely successful in establishing friendly relations with all the people. A chief of Chivua, "Baiginala," seems to have taken a prominent part in the proceedings. On the way back one of the constabulary became ill and was left a day behind in charge of two of his comrades who eventually turned up without him; on search being made no trace of him could be found, and the party returned without him to Hall Sound. This rendered a third trip to Mafula necessary, for rumours came that the man had been eaten there, which indeed proved to be the case. On Mr. Giulianetti's return to Mafula he met at first only the fighting men, and they evidently expected to be attacked. It turned out that the principal offender who had found the sick constable and killed and eaten him, was the same Chivua chief above mentioned. He, it is hardly necessary to say, was not present. A reward was at once offered for him but without success, and the Government Agent had to return after a few days' stay without having got him. Altogether Mafula has unfortunate associations connected with its first acquaintance with the Government.

Dr. Blayney in his report states that there are now 92 village constables, 31 of whom are chiefs in his district, and that every year shows increased efficiency, while blackmailing has become a thing of the past. They have themselves erected excellent quarters for the Magistrate and his police at Maopa, in the Aroma District.

Dr. Blayney at the end of his report gives a short account of the progress of the European-owned plantations in his district.

Eastern Division.

Mr. Moreton, the Resident Magistrate, in his report, gives accounts of various visits to different parts of his district. The most serious local occurrence during the year was the rising in the Trobriands and the overthrow of the old Chief Enamakala, his village being burned and food gardens pillaged and destroyed. A report was at once sent to the Magistrate at Samarai by the Rev. Mr. Fellows, of the Wesleyan Mission, and Mr. Moreton proceeded there immediately with a small force of constabulary. An ambushed attack was made on his party, but the rebels were put to flight with one volley, no lives were lost, and they at once sued for peace. They were told at once to restore the old chief, rebuild his villages, replant his gardens, and make other proper reparation for their misconduct; these they promised to faithfully carry out and did, the Magistrate taking six of the

sons of the principal among them as hostages; these lads were well taken care of at Samarai and instructed in the ways of the Government, and finally taken back by Mr. Moreton to their homes. Enamakala, however, never recovered the shock and died shortly after the ceremony of restoration of peace-making had been performed.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

Finding a party of miners near Cape Nelson trying to find their way inland to the back of Collingwood Bay, Mr. Moreton very considerably went with them inland for four days to place them on good terms with the natives. No gold was found by them, but he says that the country is well worth prospecting, and that there is plenty of good land there unoccupied which can be made available for sale. A trip was also made to the village of Biridumudumu, at the back of Cape Vogel, to make some arrests for murders. He reports, "The country about this part would do well for cattle, open grass with thin belts of scrub, and plenty of water."

The magistrate mentions the death of two young boys who had been left by themselves with some uncooked food and a few boxes of matches on an uninhabited island by a Greek trader to collect turtle-shell, and were found dead a few days afterwards by some natives visiting the island. Steps have been taken which will prevent a recurrence of such a pitiable thing.

An expedition was made to the Paiwa people in Goodenough Bay, who for some time have been behaving in a disorderly way, committing murders, and sending defiant messages to the Government. As is commonly the case in such instances they did not wait for the magistrate and his little force, but disappeared the moment they heard he was coming. He was unable to secure the ringleaders, but has since had a further reckoning with them. He mentions a remarkable instance of forbearance on the part of his corporal, who, though a spear grazed his forehead, forbore to fire his rifle and secured his opponent.

Mr. Moreton also went with Captain Barton on a successful expedition to the country behind Fyfe Bay, Mullens Harbour, and Oranerie Bay, where they found a large tract of good agricultural land which he says could be easily opened up with a light railway.

The native population suffered very severely from want of food. The heavy gale in the previous year seriously diminished the food supply, added to which there was a bad drought in many parts of the coast. The Islands of the d'Entrecasteaux Group appear to have suffered the worst, and many of the natives who were starving were only too glad to be signed on as carriers for the goldfields. From the number of desertions, in many cases resulting in the runaways being killed and eaten by the savage tribes in whose country they were found, it seems that many of them repented of their bargain. The total number of

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

labourers who engaged under contracts in the district during the period under report was 1,323. There was some trouble with the natives at the gold-diggings at the back of Milne Bay, who had been thieving from the miners, and threatened to resist the Government authority. This was promptly dealt with by Mr. Symons, the assistant magistrate, who arrested several of them, since which they have given no further trouble of any consequence. Samarai is improving. New buildings, public office extension, hotels, stores, a small hospital, a school for the children of Europeans under the management of the Anglican Mission all evidence the efforts of the community to supply these elementary wants of civilisation. The greatest obstacle of all to much extension at Samarai is that the island is much too small. It is, however, very difficult to find another suitable place for a township anywhere in the vicinity.

With regard to industries in his district Mr. Moreton does not give a very encouraging account. The gold return is apparently much less than in last year, but it is very difficult to tell what the real amount of gold taken out of the country is. Alluvial digging at Milne Bay has almost ceased, though there is a report of new finds there. Pearl-shell, copra, and rubber all show a considerable falling off. Black-lip shell, and bêche-de-mer kept about the same.

The average number of prisoners in the gaol at Samarai, mostly for minor local offences, was 82. The magistrate reports that the health of the prisoners was good, though there were six deaths from the prevailing epidemics of pneumonia and dysentery. Mr. Moreton also reports a severe epidemic of dysentery in the Trobriands. The introduction of whooping-cough from Cooktown to Samarai and its rapid and disastrous spread has been already mentioned.

A medical officer was appointed for the district, with his headquarters at Samarai, and a hospital has been started under a local committee, supported by private subscriptions, supplemented by an equivalent grant from the Government. The hospital is attended by the Government Medical Officer, the committee paying for his services a sum fixed with the approval of the Government.

The northern part of the Eastern District from Cape Vogel was this year transferred to the North-Eastern District. There are 41 village constables in the Eastern District.

Two small steamers—the “Adelaide,” about 129 tons gross, belonging to Messrs. Clunn and Sons, and the “President,” about 50 tons gross, belonging to Messrs. Whitten Bros.—have been running at various times between Cooktown, Samarai, Woodlark Island, Cape Nelson, and the Mambare, which has proved a very great convenience to the public. Port Moresby, the seat of the Government, having no means of regular communication

with Samarai, has no share in this benefit, but stores, &c., are now forwarded from Samarai to the other places at which the steamers may be calling.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900

South-Eastern Division.

The report of the Resident Magistrate, Mr. Campbell, shows that the district is as quiet as usual. He thinks the native population is at a standstill, and that this is due to the common practice of abortion amongst the younger married women, the husband being a consenting party. This is not a good sign for the future. The custom is an old one, and Mr. Campbell is hopeful that time will cure it. Many deaths occurred from whooping-cough and bronchitis. There were 501 natives under labour agreements. There are 21 village constables in the district. There was a decrease of serious crime. There were 41 prisoners on the gaol register during the year; their conduct and health were both excellent.

Owing to the increase of mining work at Woodlark Island an assistant magistrate and warden, Mr. Bramell, formerly Government Agent for Mekeo District, and latterly employed in the Treasury at Port Moresby, was appointed for Woodlark Island, thus freeing the resident magistrate for other work in his district.

Mining at Sudest has stopped; the "British New Guinea Proprietary Company" have closed their operations, and there are no Europeans engaged at alluvial mining now; the natives glean a little gold from the creeks. At Misima (St. Aignans) some 16 miners were working alluvial ground with poor result. A reported discovery of copper awaits further investigation.

Woodlark Island is the centre of the gold industry. 75 gold leases, including 745 acres, have been applied for, the total number of mining leases in the district, including Sudest and Misima, was 82, including 881 acres, but these last may be left out of account. The Warden's court dealt with 381 applications. The revenue of the district amounted to £1,514, £1,073 more than in the previous year, owing to the development of the gold industry at Woodlark Island. It is likely to still further increase next year, if the two larger companies erect their machinery.

The European population on 30th June was 113, of whom 76 were at Woodlark Island.

The quantities and values of the commercial products of the district were as follows:—

•9987

C

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

Product.	Quantity.	Value.
Copra	23 tons	£ 1,150
Bêche-de-Mer	22 „	1,100
Pearl shell	44 „	400
Black-lipped shell	20 „	900
Turtle-shell... ..	800 lbs.	500
Total	—	£3,000

The district vessel “Murua,” which is always kept in most beautiful order by Mr. Campbell, was supplied with new sails, and is in very good sea-going condition; she is constantly employed amongst the islands of the district. Mr. Campbell speaks of the good work done by the Wesleyan Mission under Mr. Williams at Panaieti; the church attendances have increased by 310, and the school attendances are also satisfactory, the average daily attendance at the five Mission schools in the district is 341. The work of the Mission has been hampered by the whooping-cough epidemic and by an unusual amount of fever amongst the teachers.

Northern Division.

Mr. Armit, the Resident Magistrate for the Northern Division, reports several substantial improvements at the Government Station, at Tamata. They have now 38 acres under cultivation, and could feed all the natives on the station, constabulary, and prisoners, on native food alone if nothing else was required. The natives on the river and in the neighbourhood of the Station are on very friendly terms with the whites and the Government. Many of them are returning to the Gira and Ope to settle again on the Mambare; they are cultivating large food gardens. Mr. Armit is of opinion that in spite of the unusual mortality this year from whooping-cough, the native population is on the increase. The natives on the Upper Ope have been troublesome and committing robberies on the carriers to the goldfields. The opening of the Yodda Valley Gold Field has brought an influx of prospectors and miners into the country lying at the foot of the main range between the upper waters of the Kumusi and Mambare. The natives of that part are described as the worst that have been met with; they are savage cannibals, and have found many victims amongst the runaway carriers. Mr. Armit made an expedition under great

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

difficulties there from Tamata, in the early part of the year, to explore the country and to try and establish friendly relations with the natives, and make the road safe against attacks on parties of prospectors who were making their way up from the Kumusi. He found most of the natives very hostile, and in several cases he had to fight, and altogether between 50 and 60 are reported to have been shot in various encounters. He describes the natives as being usually fierce fighters, throwing stones, and following up a spear rush with their stone tomahawks. They appear to be treacherous and repulsive. Mr. Armit has also given an interesting report on the country and its prospects as a goldfield.

It was evident that some Government authority was required nearer to the new field than Tamata, and Mr. A. Elliott, the assistant warden and European officer there, was sent to form a station on the Kumusi with a detachment of constabulary. The station has been established on the Upper Kumusi, and the Yodda Valley is periodically visited from it. The life on the river and at the field is most severe, the distances and difficulties of transport have made the cost of the barest necessities almost prohibitive. Mr. Armit gives an interesting account of the gold-bearing possibilities, in which he has great confidence, of both the Albert Edward and the Yodda Valley fields, pointing out that for want of proper knowledge and appliances much most valuable gold-bearing country has either been passed over unnoticed or has not yet been touched. He strongly advocates the use of hydraulic sluicing. It is likely that the field will be much further developed during the coming year, and if the newly-proposed dredging industry is taken up it will give a great impetus to the district. The natives of the Albert Edward country appear to have been very friendly, but inclined to steal. The opening of the Yodda Valley has taken most of the miners from the Gira field, and caused a falling-off in the revenue from gold.

The wet season appears to have been the healthiest; during the dry period from April to June there was much sickness, several cases of what Mr. Armit takes for "blackwater" fever having occurred. It is difficult to say without professional medical opinion whether this is the true blackwater fever which is so fatal in South Africa, or an aggravated form of the ordinary malarial fever of this country, which is susceptible to medical treatment.

Great inconvenience, to say the least of it, is caused by the frequent desertion of carriers on the way to the fields. As has been stated many of these were driven away from their islands, especially Goodenough, by stress of starvation, and after the first relief of their want, when they found the work distasteful or too hard, they deserted in numbers, often occasioning heavy loss to their employers. Mr. Armit mentions one instance of

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

at least 41 loads having been thrown into a river and lost. The natives on the Mambare at first used to bring back deserters and receive payment from the storekeepers, but Mr. Armit has come to the conclusion "that they now levy blackmail and let the boys go free." When the Lieutenant-Governor was at the station last, and this subject was discussed with the Europeans at Tamata township, he suggested the formation of a corps of "Road Constables" to act as escort to carriers, and to at once report, and, if possible, trace deserters. The presence of one or two constables would do much to check the carriers from, at any rate, looting or destroying their loads; the cost of the corps would be borne by the storekeepers, a trifling item in comparison with the value of the stores; but it does not appear that the matter ever went further. The European population of the district is stated to have averaged 100 persons during the year.

During the year the Anglican Mission opened a station at Ume Village, on the Mambare River, under the Rev. Mr. Hines, but his health giving way he had to leave, and his place was taken by the Rev. Mr. Copeland King, under whom considerable progress has been made and a school started. At a meeting of the Europeans at Tamata township it was decided to subscribe for a church there for English services, and a site in the Government reserve was offered to the Mission for the purposes of erecting a church and school. The district revenue from all sources was £225.

Western Division.

There is no district report for this year. There was no Resident Magistrate for the first half of the period, and Mr. English acted during the second half. The principal occurrence of interest was the expedition with the Government party to the Morehead, already referred to.

Mr. Hely, the Resident Magistrate for several years, who had been absent in Australia for nearly two years, was obliged to resign his office on account of continued ill-health.

An account* of a boat trip by Mr. R. Bruce, who resides at Gebava Island in the mouth of the Fly River, and Mr. Berne to the Baum and Betura Rivers which run into the Fly, is appended. Mr. Bruce gives an interesting account of their experiences with the natives of the Baum—who were hostile, and eventually turned them back—and with the "Bore." He mentions the eating of a white clay, scraped with a shell, and eaten as a relish with food by the natives of the Betura. He is of opinion that the Baum carries a larger population than any river on that side of the Gulf of Papua.

* Not printed.

ARMED NATIVE CONSTABULARY.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

Captain A. W. Butterworth, the Commandant, went on leave to Australia in November, and while there was selected for a commission in the Queensland Contingent of Imperial Bushmen for the war in South Africa, where he is still serving. During his absence the force has been under the command of Captain F. R. Barton (late Royal West India Regiment) Private Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor.

The report of the Acting Commandant shows that there were 115 men on the roll (the full strength is at present 130) distributed in eight districts; 32 at head quarters, most of whom form the travelling contingent for the "Merrie England" on the visits of inspection about the Possession, 22 in the Northern District, 18 in the Western, 15 in the North-Eastern, 10 at Mekeo, and six in the Eastern, South-Eastern, and Rigo Districts, respectively.

The greater majority of the force is still composed of Western men, but men are now being recruited from all parts of the Possession. Captain Barton incidentally draws an interesting comparison between the Western and Eastern natives. The health of the men was on the whole good, some severe cases of pleurisy occurred among them, and, as usual, they seem to have more sickness at Mambare than anywhere. Some new arms were got on trial (Martini-Henry carbines). It has been decided, on the advice of the military authorities at home, to re-arm the force with Martini-Enfield carbines. The report contains a detailed statement of the various patrols made by the Commandant with the headquarter force during the year to different parts of the Possession.

GAOL.

The report of the head gaoler and overseer of works, Mr. McDonald, shows that the number of prisoners received at the head gaol at Port Moresby during the year was—males, 86; females, six; total, 92, which was 22 less than the previous year. Prisoners discharged—males, 51; females, four; total 55. Eleven prisoners were transferred to other district gaols. There were six deaths. Five prisoners escaped from working gangs, three of whom were recaptured, as well as three others who had escaped the previous year. The report contains a summary of the classification and treatment of prisoners under the prison regulations, and a description of their life when camping out with a road party. It is very often said that amongst natives, such as those of this Possession, no stigma attaches to a man from the fact that he is a prisoner, but this is very doubtful. It is true that in many outward ways no repugnance is shown to being in the company of a prisoner, and he usually receives

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA.
1899-1901.

the same share of food, or other things, as any free man; he joins unrestrictedly in conversation, or even games; but, it is generally found that there is, nevertheless, a wide gulf between him and his free companions. Mr. McDonald describes very well how nothing will induce the free natives to work with prisoners, or even to camp with him, when he is out on the roads with them; but he remarks that no stigma rests on a prisoner who has been discharged; he is regarded as having purged his offence against the law. This is, of course, theoretically the same with white races, but there is, in their case, the offence against "society," of which the stigma always remains, and of which the offender is never purged; this is the real difference between the degree of intensity in the punishment of civilised and uncivilised men. The entire absolution after punishment is carried still further into practice here, for the prison has become a valuable training ground and source of qualification for Government employment, and that this is so, is in a great measure due to the administration of the head gaoler, who is given a deservedly free hand with his prisoners.

The punishments are very few; the power to award corporal punishment exists in name, but the punishment is never inflicted. The severest punishment is shot drill, and it is satisfactory to note that an offender never requires a second infliction of it.

A detailed list of works carried out by the prisoners is given in the report; amongst the most useful may be mentioned the erection of a large timber beacon at the entrance through the main reef, which was much wanted. It is, no doubt, very satisfactory from a moral point of view to be able to point to decreasing numbers of criminals, but in the practical carrying out of public works here the dearth of prison labour is becoming alarming.

LANDS AND SURVEYS.

The report of the Chief Government Surveyor appears for the first time in this Report.* At the time it was written the Department only consisted of the Chief, Mr. Russell, and one assistant surveyor, Mr. Wearne. A start had, however, been made, and at the present moment there are five surveyors with their assistants, a draughtsman surveyor, and a contract surveyor, in addition to the Chief Surveyor. This will, however, belong to next year's report; during the period now in question there were only two. Mr. Russell gives detailed returns of—

- (a) The total areas granted in each division, exclusive of mission sites and mining leases. The total area granted to 30th June was 14,017 acres, of which 9,231 were in the Central, and 3,346 in the Eastern Districts.

* Not printed.

(b) Mission sites granted to 30th June, 1900—BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

Mission.	Number of Sites.	Acres.
Central, Eastern, and Western :—		
London Mission... ..	162	719
Central :—		
Sacred Heart Mission	61	695
Eastern and South-Eastern :—		
Wesleyan Mission	100	633
Eastern, North-Eastern, and Northern:—		
Anglican Mission	17	292
Total	340	2,339

(c) Survey work done during the year.

(d) Areas of land acquired by the Crown during the year, amounting to 370,457 acres (nearly 580 square miles), all of which, with the exception of 21,200 acres on the Oriomo River, in the Western Division, are situated in the Central Division.

(e) Total area of Crown land on 30th June, 1900—

—	Acres.
Central District	418,543
Eastern	1,945
South Eastern	1,126
North-Eastern	Nil.
Northern	Nil.
Western	21,351
Total	442,965 (=692½ square miles.)

Two applications for large areas of land for agricultural development—in one case for 100,000 acres, and in the other for

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

200,000 acres—were received from well-represented Australian syndicates. As the areas exceeded in both cases 50,000 acres, which, under the arrangement made with the Premiers of the three contributing colonies, is the limit within which the Government of the Possession can deal in lands without reference to them, these applications were at once notified to them; and official intimation has since been received by this Government, to its great disappointment, of the intention of the Government of New South Wales to oppose both. As, however, the matter is not yet settled, further discussion of it is deferred.

MEDICAL.

The report of the Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Blayney, also appears as a departmental report this year for the first time.* A Medical Department, as such, has been established, and at present consists of the Chief Medical Officer at Port Moresby and a medical officer at Samarai. An endeavour to secure two other medical officers in Australia was unsuccessful, but application has been made for two to the Colonial Office, to which all the necessary details have been sent. Dr. Blayney reports that the health of the small European population at Port Moresby during the year was good; slight attacks of fever were common, but serious or severe cases are very rare. He speaks of the establishment of the hospital at Samarai as meeting a much-felt want, and instances where the entire absence of medical or nursing assistance at Port Moresby would have been of the most serious nature when dysentery broke out there while he was away in the western part of his district had it not been for the presence and skill of the Rev. Mr. Hunt, of the London Missionary Society Mission there. He draws attention to the unsatisfactory sanitation of the European township at port. Since the date of his report a Health Ordinance has been passed which will improve matters greatly in that direction.

With regard to the native population, Dr. Blayney states that the mortality from dysentery, pleurisy, and whooping-cough has been extremely high this year. The first disease is now endemic, and the necessity for trying to induce the natives to preserve their water supplies from contamination is dwelt on—almost as hopeless a task as getting them to follow out medical advice in cases of sickness. Yaws seem to be on the increase, but not of a severe type. Ringworm and itch have taken a firm hold, and are assisted in their spread by the uncleanly habits of the people, especially with regard to European clothes, which, as he remarks, are never too filthy to strut about in. The little three-roomed building known as the "female prison," which was erected in the days of the Protectorate, at a fabulous cost, as

* Not printed.

rumour goes, was removed from the harbour side of port to the gaol premises, and serves the purpose of a hospital and for the isolation of sick cases. It is hoped that provision may be made for the establishment of a small hospital at port before long.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

The European population of Port Moresby on 30th June, 1900, was: Males, 21; females, 4; total, 25. Births, 1 (female), deaths, 1 (female), during the year.

A report on the health of the prisoners at Port Moresby by the head gaoler is attached to Dr. Blayney's report. A report from Dr. Vaughan, medical officer at Samarai, is also attached to that of the chief medical officer. No reference is made in either of the reports of the medical officers to the great danger the Possession was exposed to from its proximity to Australia during the spread of the plague there. But it is a subject which deserves mention, for had it reached either Cooktown or Thursday Island—and, as it made its way northwards as far as Cairns, the probability of its appearing at any time at either of those places seemed very great—it is difficult to see how we should have escaped its introduction here, especially by way of Thursday Island, as there is practically no effective control over the going and coming of the pearling boats manned by Japanese and natives amongst the islands of Torres Straits, which form a continuous chain from Thursday Island and Cape York to our western shores. It was in view of the great danger of its introduction by that way that it was considered of the greatest importance to get a medical officer for Daru, the port of entry in the west which must be kept open in any case, for to close it would mean to throw away the only chance of supervision over the pearling boats coming to our shores as they do now for wood, water, or provisions. With a medical officer at the other two ports it was possible to take proper and reasonable precautions such as detention in quarantine for medical inquiry, and, if necessary, examination, isolation, and treatment. In the other case the only thing the Customs officer at Daru could do would be to put everything from Queensland waters indiscriminately into quarantine for the longest period allowed by law. But the probability is that it would find its way ashore at a medically unguarded spot and begin its awful course before anything was known of it. It is not difficult to imagine what that would mean here; and it is but proper that the Possession should realise with great thankfulness what has so far been escaped. With the decrease and practical disappearance of the plague from Australia the immediate danger is passed, but constant watch must be kept for its reappearance. Three cases have been recently landed in quarantine at Thursday Island, in one of which death occurred, from a steamer from Glasgow. The disease is said to have been contracted at Batavia, where she called.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

TRADE.

Imports.

The report and statistical returns furnished by the Treasurer show that the Customs dues collected during the year under report amounted to £10,821, or an increase of £937 over the previous year.

The total value of the imports was £72,286, as against £52,170, or an increase of £20,116; of this £8,050 was specie, of which none appears in the returns for the previous year, but, supposing that none was imported in that year, it still leaves an increase in other general imports of over £12,000 in favour of 1899-1900. All three ports of entry share in this increase, but, as is natural, by far the largest proportion belongs to Samarai, thanks to the gold industry, which is credited with £16,320 of it as against £3,131 at Port Moresby, the centre of the sandalwood trade, and £665 at Daru. Increases appear under all the principal items except hardware and timber, in which there was a slight temporary decrease. Drapery shows an increase of £820; foodstuffs, of £4,223; spirits, £675; trade tobacco, £786 (trade tobacco is the ordinary medium of payment to the native population); building material, £596; boats, £1,311; and miscellaneous, of £4,172.

The total value of imports of liquor was £4,697, and tobacco (exclusive of trade) £464. Trade tobacco amounted to nearly £5,000 in value.

Exports.

The total value of the exports was £56,167, as against £68,496 in the previous year, or a falling off of £12,329, but of this £12,069 is given as the falling off of gold alone.

It is very difficult to get at anything like a true figure of what the gold export is. There is no obligation to declare it, and miners are naturally secretive about what they are making out of any new place. Reliance has to be placed, for the purpose of these reports, on the return of gold imported into Cooktown from New Guinea, and that in a great measure only represents the gold paid to the storekeepers in New Guinea by the miners in payment of their accounts for provisions, &c., and does not include amounts taken over privately and disposed of in Australia. From information obtained through the courtesy of the Customs Department, the Royal Mint in Sydney, and the banks, for which a grateful acknowledgment is offered, the actual amount of gold imported from New Guinea during the year under report was valued at about £32,500. The number of miners on the Gira, Woodlark, and Milne Bay fields, collectively, was larger than in the previous year; but the block in the Woodlark surveys interfered considerably with the mining.

there this year, and the movement to the Yodda Valley, as Mr. Armit points out in his report, reduced the number of working claims on the Gira field. The solution of the apparent anomaly in the increase in imports while the gold export so decreased is due to these causes, and it is probable that the balance will recover itself this year.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

There was a serious falling off in almost every article of export except sandal-wood, for which there was an increased demand; it comes from the Central District.

Pearl-shell fell from £10,000 to £5,000. Black-lipped shell appears as an increase of £2,766, but it is not very clear from previous returns whether this is now given as a separate or new item formerly included in "Pearl-shell"; if so, the decrease in the latter will be proportionately reduced. Copra shows a decrease of £682, but this is due to the effects of the blow in the eastern part of the Possession in the previous year. With the large increase in the cocoa-nut planting by the natives in the east, and especially in Milne Bay, there should be a corresponding increase in the copra export in the future.

The rubber industry is at present languishing, and fell off by £457.

As Sir F. Winter said in the Report for last year, probably all the accessible country near the coast is worked out, and the trees destroyed in the process. There is, however, an enormous amount of good rubber-producing country waiting to be worked in a scientific and rational way. Until and unless it is treated so, it had better be left alone, and it is infinitely preferable to see a diminished export than an apparently flourishing trade being carried on at the expense of its capital sources and ultimate ruin. The total trade for the past six years shows a remarkable fluctuation, probably peculiar to a new gold country:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Increase.
	£	£	£	£
1894-95 ...	28,367	16,215	44,582	—
1895-96 ...	34,521	19,401	53,922	9,340
1896-97 ...	51,391	44,345	95,757	41,815
1897-98 ...	46,971	49,859	96,830	1,093
1898-99 ...	52,170	68,496	120,666	23,836
1899-1900 ...	72,286	56,167	128,453	7,787

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

SHIPPING.

The total number of vessels (exclusive of Government vessels) that entered inwards from beyond the Possession was 112, having a tonnage of 20,733, against 92 of 19,583 tons in the year before. The outward clearances were 95 of 19,110 tons, against 81 of 19,191 tons. The total inward, outward, and coastwise vessels was 528 with 13,221 tons, against 568 with 15,886 tons. All the shipping was British.

POSTAL.

The Post Office statistics show an increase in letters despatched of 3,306, and of newspapers received 4,955. Letters received show a decrease of 529.

It is much to be desired that the Possession should now have postage stamps of its own, and the proposal has received the approval of the Governor of Queensland. An order has been sent to England for a set of stamps, and it is hoped that they will be issued some time in the course of the next year.

It will also be a source of satisfaction to the public when the Australian colonies, and consequently the Possession, join the universal penny postage system. They are the only part now of the British Empire which has not done so.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

The total estimated Revenue was £12,463; the actual receipts were £13,834, or an excess over the estimate of £1,373, and £2,152 over the receipts for 1898-99. Customs and Warehouse Dues exceeded the estimate by £450, and the receipts of the previous year by £930. Judicial Fines and Fees were £55 over the estimate. Land Sales and Leases fell £275 below the estimate. Liquor Licenses were £34 above the estimate. Fishing Licenses were £63, and Timber Licenses £20 above the estimate. Goldfield receipts were £953 over the estimate, and £1,436 over the previous year. Of the total £1,753, £1,552 were collected in the South-Eastern District, almost all of which was from the new Woodlark field. Native Labour Fees, a new item under the "Native Labour Ordinance of 1899," appears.

for the first time in the Revenue return. As the Ordinance only came into operation during the year, it did not appear on the Estimates. Miscellaneous receipts were £61 in excess of the estimate.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

Expenditure.

The total estimated Expenditure was £20,264, and the actual Expenditure was £21,301, or about £1,037 more than the estimate, principally due to expenses in connection with Government Store.

A considerable saving appears under General Travelling Allowances of £576, but there was an excess of expenditure under General Transport of £254; a good many items which used to be charged to the first are now charged to the latter of these votes.

Armed Native Constabulary shows a saving of £380 and Gaols of £241; in both cases the saving was in the vote for rations, while in other items in the Constabulary there was an excess; the Constabulary were not up to their full strength (130), and the number of prisoners was under that provided for. Public Works Extraordinary shows a saving of £721, but this is due to several of the works not having been taken in hand in the year under report; they will come into the next one. Miscellaneous shows an excess of £200. Amongst the overdrawn items is General Transport, £254, alluded to above; Printing and Stationery, £121; Land Purchases, £117. Against these there was a saving of £188 on the vote for Chiefs and Village Constables. An item of £3,696 appears in the return for which there is no vote on the Estimates. This amount represents the value of supplies in the Government Store available for issue at the end of the financial year. It is always necessary to keep a large balance on hand in case of any emergency, and while this amount will be available for the next year there was an amount of £1,970 left over from the previous year which has been consumed during the year under report. A change has been made in the method of accounting for stores. It was the practice to distribute the whole cost of stores purchased during the year amongst the several departments at the end of the year, as their unexpended votes might allow. This, however convenient, afforded no real check on the expenditure of any department; the excesses of one were covered by the savings of another. A proper system has now been introduced, each department being debited at the time with the cost of its supplies on its own requisitions. A Stores Committee has also been appointed from among the heads of the departments, which supervises requisitions and orders for stores.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900

The following is a comparison of the Revenue and Expenditure from 1890 to 1900, the 30th June in each case. The "Merrie England" is included at the average, £7,000 per annum:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure (General).	"Merrie England."	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1890	3,016	14,975	7,000	21,975
1891	2,674	15,000		22,000
1892	4,784	15,000		22,000
1893	4,605	15,000		22,000
1894	5,867	15,000		22,000
1895	5,110	15,000		22,000
1896	6,548	15,000		22,000
1897	10,664	16,229		23,229
1898	10,281	14,991		21,991
1899	11,683	15,583		22,583
1900	13,834	21,301		28,301

While the revenue has increased by nearly £11,000, the Expenditure has increased by £4,340.

The arrangement by which the three colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland contributed £5,000 a year each for ten years to the administration of British New Guinea terminated in 1898, and the difference between the Revenue and Expenditure is now being met from the "Accumulated Revenue Fund," which, on 30th June, 1898, amounted to about £20,000, and was calculated to last for about eighteen months longer, after which temporary arrangements would be necessary, pending the establishment of the Federal Government of Australia, when the future financial administration of the Possession will be settled.

"Merrie England."

The annual appropriation for the upkeep of the "Merrie England" and the two steam launches remain the same, £7,000. The actual expenditure on her account was £7,933, against which the refunds for victualling Government officers or private persons (the passage money paid by private persons who occasionally

travel in her by permission when there is no other opportunity for them is also included), amounting to £633, is credited, leaving a net expenditure of £7,300, or £300 in excess of the vote. This, however, is reduced by a credit balance of £161 in hand from the previous year, leaving the net excess £139, with which her account will stand debited for 1900-01. Part of this is really accounted for, as will be seen, by the inclusion of a premium of insurance for part of the previous year. The three items on which there is an excess over estimate are—

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

	Estimate.	Expenditure.	Excess.
	£	£	£
Victualling... ..	1,030	1,238	238
Deck and engine-room stores ...	500	715	215
Insurance	340	577	237
Total excesses			690
Less savings on other items ...			390
Total net excess as above			300

The gross expenditure for victualling in the previous year was £1,594, against which there were refund credits of £524, leaving a net expenditure under this head of £1,070, or £175 less than in the year under report; but there was more travelling done in her in the latter than in the previous year, and it is somewhat doubtful whether the charge of 4s. 6d. per day for saloon passengers, whether on Government or private account, is sufficient to cover the cost of victualling, especially since the heavy increase in the cost of tinned meats, &c.

Deck and engine-room stores are items which also vary with the amount of work the vessel does.

Insurance covered the premiums on the "Merrie England" for eighteen months, owing to a readjustment of the ship's financial year to correspond with that of the Possession, and £37 for insurance on the launch "Ruby" for six months while she was at work in the west.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

The total number of miles run by the ship was 16,021, her record total; the coal consumption was 660 tons 10 cwt., which was divided as follows:—

	Tons. Cwt.	
Ship (engines)	608	15 (= 26·3 knots run per ton of coal consumed)
Steam launches	31	0
Galley Cooking	20	15
Total	660	10

The ship was continually running while she was in the Possession; her longest stay at anchor was while she was waiting at Dauan Island for seventeen days during the expedition to the Morehead with the "Ruby."

The report* of her survey at Brisbane is appended. Her advancing years necessitate very careful overhauling and repairing, but she will continue to do her work for some time to come. It is satisfactory to know that though in unsurveyed waters she has occasionally been aground she has again not sustained any damage.

OFFICIAL STAFF.

His Honour Mr. F. P. Winter, C.M.G., Chief Judicial Officer and Deputy Administrator, received the honour of knighthood.

The Hon. C. G. Murray was appointed to the new clerkship in the Government Secretary's Office. He has since been appointed acting resident magistrate for the Western Division, and his place in the Government Secretary's Office taken by Mr. A. Walker.

Mr. J. T. Bensted was transferred from the "Merrie England" to be clerk in the Government Store.

Mr. A. H. Jiear, of the Queensland Customs, was appointed Sub-Collector of Customs at Daru.

Mr. B. Hely, for many years resident magistrate for the Western Division, a member of the Executive Council, and one of the oldest officers of the Possession, resigned his appointment from continued ill-health, and is now employed in the Queensland Government service.

* Not reprinted.

Mr. A. English, Government agent of the Rigo District, was appointed acting resident magistrate for the Western Division for the latter part of the year, and was ultimately relieved by Mr. Murray.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

Mr. C. A. W. Monckton was appointed resident magistrate for the new North-Eastern Division.

Mr. B. W. Bramell was transferred from the Treasury and appointed warden and assistant magistrate at Woodlark Island, South-Eastern Division, and acted as resident magistrate for the Northern Division while Mr. Armit was on leave.

Captain Butterworth, commandant of the Armed Native Constabulary, was appointed, while on leave in Australia, to the Queensland Contingent of the Imperial Bushmen for service in the Transvaal; and Captain F. R. Barton, Private Secretary, was appointed acting commandant.

Mr. F. Wearne, C.E., of Queensland, was appointed Assistant Government Surveyor.

Mr. C. Vaughan (formerly of the Bengal Medical Staff) was appointed medical officer at Samarai, for the eastern part of the Possession, provisionally on his completing his medical qualifications for registration in the United Kingdom or Australia.

Mr. H. H. Stuart Russell, C.E., Chief Government Surveyor, was appointed a member of the Executive Council of the Possession.

Mr. W. H. Gors was re-appointed a member of the Legislative Council of the Possession, and while absent on leave his place was filled by the temporary appointment of Mr. Stuart Russell.

The general health of the staff was good.

MISSION WORK.

It is to be regretted that there is not immediately available the information necessary to enable a short account to be given of the progress of the work of the several mission societies in the Possession. In future they will be asked, if they like, to send in a short report which will be incorporated with the annual reports.

The London Mission Societies have received two additions to their staff from England in the Rev. C. Y. Tomkins, to assist the Rev. Mr. Chalmers in the West, and Torres Straits, and the Rev. E. B. Riley, as assistant to the Rev. Dr. Lawes at Vatorata. The Rev. Mr. Abel and Mrs. Abel went on leave to England, Mr. F. W. Walker taking charge of their training school at Kwato till they return.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900.

The girl students at Kwato had the advantage of Mrs. Fletcher, of the Wesleyan Mission at Goodenough Island, staying with them for some months.

The Rev. Mr. Schlenker has taken the first step in the establishment of the new inland mission to the interior of the Kemp Welsh District, which has been called the "Mt. Douglas Mission," and a station has been selected on the lower slopes of the mountain of that name, and two teachers have been placed there. On Mr. Schlenker's return from Australia early next year he is going to reside there himself. This will be of considerable importance to the Government, as it will open up and settle a large, hitherto little visited tract of country. The Rev. Mr. Cribb had to retire from work owing to ill-health; he has since been succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Saville at Mailu, and another new recruit for the Society, both also from England, the Rev. C. F. Rich, has taken Mr. Schlenker's place at Fife Bay.

The Wesleyan Mission have lost the Rev. Mr. Field, who was moved from Tube-Tube, in the Engineer Group, to Fergusson Island, but who has had to resign from ill-health.

The Anglican Mission have added the Rev. Mr. Furneau and some ladies to their staff, and have lost the Rev. Mr. Hines, who had to leave from ill-health. They have established a station on the Mambare, and a school for the children of Europeans at Samarai. The diocese of the Bishop has been constituted as a separate diocese by the Australian Synod.

The Sacred Heart Mission have had several additions to their staff, which will enable them to extend their operations into the interior of the St. Joseph District. The Rev. Father Alain de Boismenu was appointed Bishop-Coadjutor, and proceeded to Europe to be consecrated.

METEOROLOGICAL.

It is to be regretted that there is not reliable information or systematic records of the rainfall at the several stations. The Government Secretary has furnished a report on the subject and a summary of the records taken at Port Moresby.

The year was an exceptionally dry one, the total rainfall being a fraction under 34 inches, of which a little over 20 inches fell in the four months from November to February, and 10 inches in April and May, leaving less than 3 inches for the remaining five months. Application has been made to the Royal Meteorological Society in England for the loan of some sets of proper instruments, but it is doubtful if the request can be granted.

There was more rain in the Eastern Districts, but the year throughout has been disastrously dry for the natives, and much suffering has been and is the result.

BRITISH
NEW
GUINEA,
1899-1900

G. R. LE HUNTE.

Government House,
Port Moresby,
3rd January, 1901.

P.S.—Since writing the above a report on the Western Division has been received from Mr. A. English for the six months during which he was acting as Resident Magistrate there.

The report contains some interesting information on the labour trade in the district, it being the principal recruiting ground in the Possession. The subject of the better supervision of those employed on the pearling vessels in the waters of Torres Straits requires attention, and will receive the close attention of the Government.

There was a considerable increase in the local trade of the district. The Customs collections were £230 more than in the previous year, and the value of the imports was £1,644, an increase of £662; while the value of the exports—copra, pearl-shell, black-lipped shell, bêche-de-mer, and peanuts—increased by £1,223.

G. R. LE HUNTE.

4th January, 1901.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.
1901.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 347.

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1900-1901.

(For Report for 1899-1900, *see* No. 320.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
February, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.4.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-17.] Price 1½d.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	
321	Lagos	1900
322	Bermuda... ..	"
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados	"
327	Bahamas... ..	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia... ..	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
336	British New Guinea	1899-1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar	"
343	Basutoland	1900-1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	"
346	Northern Nigeria	1900-1901

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand... ..	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas... ..	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific... ..	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla... ..	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas... ..	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 347.

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1899-1900, see No. 320.)

HIGH COMMISSIONER ALLARDYCE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Office of the High Commissioner
for the Western Pacific,
Suva,

Fiji, 6th November, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for your information, a copy of the Report of the Resident Commissioner of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate for the year 1900-1901.

I have &c.,

W. L. ALLARDYCE.

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901.

PROTECTORATE OF BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS.—
REPORT FROM 1st APRIL, 1900, TO 31st MARCH,
1901.

WHITE AND OTHER FOREIGN RESIDENTS.

No special enumeration of these has been made, but, as the date of the report coincided with the time appointed for taking the Census throughout the Empire, an attempt has been made to make the present return as complete as possible.

The number of white and other foreign residents on the 31st March, 1901, amounts to 76. Of these, there were 65 males and 11 females.

Their employments and occupations were as follows:—

In Government employment	...	...	...	4
Melanesian Mission	...	...	...	2
Marist Fathers Mission (including two sisters)	...	...	...	13
Engaged in trading, prospecting for minerals, diving for pearl-shell, and scientific pursuits	...	...	...	48
Women and children	...	...	...	9
Total	...	...	...	76

The nationalities of the above were as follows:—

British	...	...	...	...	...	50
French (including 13 members of the Marist Mission)	...	...	...	...	...	15
Philippine Islanders	...	...	...	...	...	6
Germans	...	...	...	...	...	2
Scandinavians	...	...	...	...	...	2
Japanese	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	...	...	76

MORTALITY AND SICKNESS.

Three deaths have occurred among the white and other foreign population in the Protectorate during the year. In two cases death was due to natural causes, the cause of death in one case being malarial fever and in the other blood poisoning. The third case reported was a case of accidental drowning through an accident to a diving dress.

In addition to the above reported deaths in the Protectorate, Mr. N. C. Tindal, a prominent trader, died during a visit to Sydney.

For the third year in succession no death due to attack by natives has to be recorded.

No death or accident from the incautious use of dynamite has occurred during the year.

An epidemic of dysentery prevailed among the natives during the first part of the period now under review, but does not appear to have been very fatal.

An epidemic of influenza caused many deaths at the west end of the Protectorate during the month of March, but on the whole the year may be considered to have been a healthy one.

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

A steady and most satisfactory increase is again apparent in the Revenue, which shows an improvement under every head.

Naturally, part of this increase is attributable to the revenue received from residents in that part of the Protectorate which was previously under the control of Germany, but this does not account for the whole increase.

A grant of £500 was received from Imperial funds during the year in aid of the increased expenditure necessary to support the new Government Station at the western end of the Protectorate, the increased force of Police and the Government Vessel.

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Period.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1897-1898	957 3 11	1,933 2 0
1898-1899	1,257 7 10	1,030 1 8
1899-1900	1,454 1 6	3,120 2 0
1900-1901	1,903 11 11	1,926 13 7

	£ s. d.
Cash in Bank of New Zealand, Sydney, 31st March, 1901	1,115 10 3
Cash in Chest, 31st March, 1901	883 8 9
	£1,998 19 0
Less—Amount due to Estates of persons deceased	232 12 11
Protectorate Funds in hand, 31st March, 1901	£1,766 6 1

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901.

TRADE.

EXPORTS.

Estimated value £28,260, as against £21,381 for the previous year.

A most satisfactory increase is apparent in all the principal articles exported, with the exception of turtle-shell and green snail-shell. In both of these there is a falling off.

Copra, the chief article of export, again shows a marked increase over the previous year, an increase which is likely to be maintained as the plantations now forming by white planters begin to come into bearing.

Ivory nuts have again been enquired for in small quantities, but the price offered is not a remunerative one, and no large shipments are likely to be made unless the price improves. It is anticipated that an increased demand for this product is likely to occur.

The export of pearl-shell shows a marked increase over the previous return, the improvement being chiefly in the more valuable gold-lipped variety. The quantity of this obtained is likely to be well maintained in the future.

The quantity of turtle-shell exported exhibits a considerable falling off, for which it is somewhat difficult to account, unless it is that fewer canoes have visited the favourite turtling grounds in Manning Straits in consequence of the means adopted to suppress head hunting.

The increase in the export of beche-de-mer is chiefly due to the amount shipped from Santa Cruz, but more attention has been paid to this product by traders generally than for some years past.

The price of green snail-shell has not been so satisfactory, and consequently less has been shipped. Local stocks have been held back, and an improvement in the price would at once lead to increased shipments.

IMPORTS.

The imports have increased slightly during the year. Tobacco, as the chief medium of exchange, holds the foremost place. Calico, axes, knives and other hardware, timber for house-building, corrugated roofing, kerosene, ship chandlery, tinned provisions, flour, biscuits, beer, and spirits are among the other articles imported.

Rice is largely used by the traders to supplement the supply of native food when the latter is scarce. The natives are very fond of it and it is almost as cheap as native food.

Coal to the amount of 1,200 tons was imported, chiefly for the use of His Majesty's ships.

The natives continue to buy boats, and several arrive from Sydney by every steamer.

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901

STATEMENT of EXPORT for SIX YEARS ending 31st MARCH, 1901.

Period.	Copra.	Ivory Nuts.	Pearl Shell.	Turtle Shell.	Beche- de-Mer.	Green Snail Shell.	Rattans.	Coco- nuts.	Palm Seeds.	Oil.	Plants.	Curios.
1895	Tons. 1,200	Tons. 586	Tons. Cwts. 6 10	Lbs. 891	Ts. Cts. 7 18	Ts. Cts. —	Bundles. —	Bags. —	Bags. —	Casks. —	Cases. —	Cases. —
1896	1,383	600	8 9½	1,379	3 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1st January 1897 to 31st March 1898 (15 Months).	1,688	580	8 3½	3,149	5 10	—	290	189	7	—	23	—
1st April 1898 to 31st March 1899.	1,456	85	8 15½	3,133½	4 6½	—	—	5	2	—	6	—
1st April 1899 to 31st March 1900.	1,661	20	15 17½	3,238	5 9½	31 6½	—	20	1 box	1	4	—
1st April 1900 to 31st March 1901.	2,188	100	9 3 12 16 black. gold.	2,318	22 17	19 0	—	15	—	—	3	15

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901.

LABOUR TRADE.

Nine labour ships visited the Protectorate during the period under review. All of them hailed from Queensland.

Of these, three made three voyages, two made two voyages, and four made one voyage, or a total of 17 voyages in all.

In spite of the rigorous search imposed by the Queensland Authorities, it is feared that a considerable quantity of rifle ammunition is still brought back by returning labourers.

It is believed that natives of Mala are forced to recruit by their chiefs with the sole view of their being able to smuggle rifles or ammunition back with them at the expiration of their three years' engagement.

It is positively known that natives engage to serve as boats' crew on board the labour ships with this object in view.

Great ingenuity is shown in the concealment of contraband. Rifles have been hidden in the vessel's tops, in the galley funnel, in the water tanks, or fastened to a fishing line and put overboard during the time when the vessel was being searched.

Cartridges are found in all sorts of curious places, as, for instance, concealed under a woman's skirts, in a saucepan, in the bunt of a furled sail, and packed as an original package of tobacco.

No case of illegal recruiting has been reported. The increased attention paid to the Santa Cruz Group by His Majesty's ships during the past season has, it is hoped, put a stop to this.

Should the recruiting of labourers for the Queensland plantations be stopped altogether by the Federal Australian Government, as is probable, the effect would be to render available a larger supply of labourers for local requirements.

The area of land under cultivation as plantations by white owners in the Protectorate is an annually increasing one, and the planting industry will develop rapidly if no obstacles are placed in the way of legitimate planting enterprise.

The immediate result of the abolition of the Queensland labour trade would mean a serious loss of revenue to the Protectorate from the licenses now payable by labour ships. It is hoped, however, that this would eventually be compensated for by the increased revenue received locally.

The addition to the Protectorate of the islands of Ysabel and Choiseul, &c., has, of course, thrown these islands open to the Queensland recruiting vessels.

One or two vessels visited Ysabel, but with very poor success, and it is not considered probable that these natives will ever engage in any numbers for Queensland.

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901.

One labour vessel visited Lord Howe's Group, but, it is understood, without success.

In consequence of a doubt existing as to whether the Lord Howe natives were suited to work upon the Queensland plantations, enquiries were addressed to the Immigration Agent in Brisbane, who, having made enquiries, replied that they had been generally found suitable.

The replies of the various District Inspectors were as follows:—

Bundaberg.

Re Lord Howe Islanders, 17 arrived in 1887—13 returned end term. So far as I remember think them suitable.

Ingham.

There were 22 Lord Howe Islanders *ex* "Stormbird," 7/10/81, in this district some years ago. Am given to understand they were suitable.

Maryborough.

Do not know of any Lord Howe Islanders having been recruited for this district, but two work here—strong, healthy, good workers.

Geraldton.

Am informed Lord Howe Islanders were recruited for this district some years back, but found not up to the standard.

SHIPPING.

Regular steam communication with Sydney has now been established by means of Messrs. Burns Philp and Co.'s steamer, running to schedule time, every two months. The service has been in every way better conducted, and loss of time on the part of local traders has been avoided, as the steamer now calls at regular intervals, and the long periods of wasted time, waiting for the steamer to arrive on an uncertain date, are consequently avoided.

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901.

The trade of the Protectorate has now arrived at a stage when a direct steamer from Sydney is certainly warranted.

The present service, consisting of the two steamers "Mambare" and "Titus," is subsidized by the Government of New South Wales to the extent of £2,000 a year for carrying mails.

Under their contract, Messrs. Burns Philp despatch a steamer on the 1st of each month from Sydney, calling at Lord Howe and Norfolk Islands on both the outward and homeward trips. The "Mambare," after leaving Norfolk Island, confines herself to the New Hebrides trade. The "Titus," after leaving Norfolk Island calls at Vila only, in the New Hebrides, then at Santa Cruz, and devotes the remainder of the voyage to the Solomons, returning again *viâ* Vila, Norfolk and Lord Howe Island.

The distance from Sydney to the Solomons direct is about 1,600 miles, but, in consequence of the detour required under the conditions of the subsidy, the distance covered between Sydney and the Solomons, and again on the return journey, is about 2,400 miles.

The visits to Lord Howe and Norfolk Island can be for sentimental or charitable reasons only, as these two places have no trade to speak of.

The "Mambare," calling on her outward and homeward voyage, would be more than sufficient to do any carrying or passenger trade which Norfolk or Lord Howe are ever likely to require. As they are almost in a direct line between Sydney and the New Hebrides, no time would be lost. To ask the Solomon Island steamer to go 800 miles out of her way on both the outward and homeward voyage to call for perhaps two boatloads of cargo and a bag of mails appears to be a great waste of time and money.

The detour to Santa Cruz, under the conditions of the mail subsidy, is equally futile. At the present time there is one white resident in the Santa Cruz Group, a trader who ships all his produce through one of the Solomon Island traders and obtains his supplies in the same way. The Mission steamer "Southern Cross" calls three or more times a year to land or remove a white missionary, who spends about ten weeks in the island, and probably has no correspondence at all addressed to him at Santa Cruz, except what is brought by the Mission steamer.

The result is that the "Titus," when in the Solomons, has to work cargo day and night and Sundays, or it would be quite impossible for her to keep her schedule time. Work at such high pressure must certainly eventually break down.

With a direct service, the voyage between Sydney and the Solomons, which now occupies nearly three weeks, could be accomplished in about eight days.

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901.

An opportunity would then be afforded to traders and planters to ship pineapples, bananas, and other tropical fruits, for which at present they have no outlet.

With an export trade to Sydney larger than that of the New Hebrides, and, excluding gold, far larger than that of British New Guinea, the Solomons should be worth encouragement from the point of view of New South Wales.

Nearly all the copra which goes to Sydney from the Solomons is now converted into soap and oil-cake in Sydney itself. Sydney's consumption of copra is certain to be very largely increased at a very early date.

Sydney must continue to be for many years to come the base of the Pacific Island trade. Melbourne is geographically too remote. Auckland is not such a good market, either for buying or selling.

Whether under the new Federal tariff, which will place them upon the same footing as Sydney, Brisbane, or another of the Queensland ports, which are, of course, much nearer to the islands than Sydney, will be able to capture a share of the Solomon Island trade, remains to be proved. Certain it is that they have not been able to compete with Sydney hitherto.

Sydney has had the trade of the Solomon Islands, such as it has been, for the last 50 years, and would find it to her advantage, when it is becoming worth having, to encourage it.

A relaxation of the conditions imposed upon the Solomon Island steamer of calling at Norfolk, Lord Howe, and the New Hebrides, under the terms of the subsidy, would give this encouragement without any additional cost to the New South Wales Government, and would confer a great benefit upon the British Solomon Islands Protectorate.

The number of vessels employed in the interinsular trade and in the pearl fishing industry is larger than for the previous year.

One small vessel has been lost and two have been withdrawn from trading.

The number of vessels engaged in the pearl fishing industry is now seven. Those engaged in general trading number about sixteen.

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901.

The ships engaged in the labour trade are referred to under that heading.

AGRICULTURE.

The area of land under cultivation by white men in the Protectorate continues to increase. Most of it is planted with coco-nuts. In the following list the amount of land under coco-nuts only is taken into consideration, land used for growing native food not being taken account of:—

	Acres.
Santa Anna	20
Ugi	10
Marau Sound	35
Kaukau	100
Aola	200
Bara	3
Lengo	100
Gavutu	30
Government Station, Tulagi	75
Rubiana	50
Government Station, Gizo	10
Faisi	10
Poporang	20
Awa	25
Fauro	300

Maize has been successfully grown upon land already cleared and planted with young coco-nuts, and is said to have proved most useful in cleaning the land and keeping down weeds. Samples grown upon Guadalcanar appear to be of the highest quality. This article will figure among the exports for the coming year.

The experimental coffee nursery at the Government Station at Tulagi is now bearing well. A supply of seed is available for any one wishing to start coffee planting.

MINERALS.

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901.
—

A party of prospectors has been at work during the year upon the Island of Rendova with the object of discovering the source of origin of the very rich specimens of copper ore which have from time to time been produced from that island.

At the time of writing the result of the work is uncertain, but satisfactory indications of the existence of copper in payable quantities are alleged to have been discovered.

CLAIMS TO LAND.

Under "The Solomon (Land) Regulation, 1896," land may be acquired for the purpose of a trading station or for agricultural purposes by purchase or lease from the native owners, but contracts for the acquisition of such land are provisional only until confirmed by the High Commissioner.

It is required that a tenth part of the area of land so purchased for agricultural purposes be cultivated within five years.

Under "The Solomon (Waste Land) Regulation, 1900," Certificates of Occupation may be granted by the High Commissioner for any land which is not owned, cultivated, or occupied by any native or non-native person. Under this Regulation it is hoped that large areas of land will be taken up for coco-nut planting and other agricultural pursuits. For coco-nut planting the term of occupation license should not be less than 50 years and should be renewable.

Previous to the declaration of the British Protectorate certain transactions had taken place between natives and white men, alleged on the part of the latter to have been purchases of land.

In some cases these transactions were reasonable enough, and by subsequent occupation the purchasers have by this time, it is presumed, acquired an indefeasible title.

In other cases, the pretensions of the alleged purchasers have been of the most extravagant nature. Square miles of land are claimed to have been purchased for a consideration, which, when stated at all, works out at a very small fraction of a penny per acre. No attempt was made to enquire into the title of the

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901.

native who was supposed to sell the land. The first native encountered on the beach was considered good enough to purchase from. No occupation on the part of the claimants has taken place.

A Register of Claims to Land has hitherto been kept in the Office of the High Commissioner in Fiji, and supporting documents are accepted for filing upon payment of a small fee.

Claimants have in most cases supposed that the fact of registration in Fiji has been sufficient to establish their titles. It cannot, however, be too distinctly understood by would-be claimants that such registration is not regarded as the record of a warrantable title. The transaction is merely placed on record and nothing more.

Since the beginning of the present year, a similar Register of Claims and documents relating to land is kept in the Office of the Resident Commissioner at Tulagi.

It is hoped that no time will be lost in putting the whole question of outstanding land claims upon a more satisfactory footing, and of disposing, once for all, of certain preposterous claims which have been lately advanced.

Until these are finally settled one way or the other, the agricultural progress of the Protectorate may be said to be almost at a standstill.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The year past has been one of unusual dryness. The returns of rainfall have not at present been kept for a period extended enough to enable an observer to estimate the average annual rainfall for a series of years, but it would appear that the rainfall for 1900 was very much below the average.

Natives have complained of their yam sets perishing in the ground from lack of moisture, but that anything in the shape of a drought could ever be experienced in the Solomons is not to be supposed.

Severe westerly and north-westerly gales were experienced during the monsoon season in January, and were especially felt at the Island of Savo, where considerable damage was done both to houses and plantations.

The following is a table of the rainfall observed at the Government Station at Tulagi since October, 1897:—

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901

TABLE OF RAINFALL OBSERVED AT TULAGI IN INCHES.

Month.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
January	—	9·51	14·27	12·20	10·93
February	—	28·55	12·04	3·09	12·46
March	—	27·89	17·47	13·48	10·83
April	—	6·67	20·48	2·29	—
May	—	4·19	8·85	5·83	—
June	—	4·86	1·26	3·20	—
July	—	4·86	24·27	3·24	—
August	—	9·94	8·33	3·01	—
September	—	10·58	10·92	5·41	—
October	2·91	10·23	11·21	9·12	—
November	5·66	21·14	7·89	10·62	—
December	11·03	8·97	19·03	10·83	—
Total	19·60	147·39	156·02	82·32	32·22

Compare with the above:—

Rainfall at Santa Anna in 1883 ... 125·03 inches.

Rainfall at Ugi in 1883 ... 146·24 inches.

GOVERNMENT STATION, TULAGI.

The buildings on the Government Station at Tulagi remain the same as at the date of the last report.

No new works, in the way of buildings, have been undertaken, but the landing wharf has been repaired and will serve for the present.

The Residence and Gaol have been painted, and the verandah of the former has been lined with tongued and grooved oregon, making the house much cooler.

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901.

The area under coco-nuts has been increased during the year to 75 acres, and a further area has been cleared and is now available for planting.

About three miles of drains have been cut, allowing the surface water to escape quickly after heavy rain, and reducing the risk of malarial fever by curtailing the breeding grounds of the mosquitos. Malarial fever has in fact caused very slight inconvenience. Attacks occur now and again, but it appears to be one of those ailments for which one gets no sympathy.

The area of land on Tulagi now under cultivation considerably exceeds 100 acres, and, with the exception of a small quantity of rice which has occasionally to be bought, the natives upon the station are entirely fed upon food grown upon the spot.

Bananas grow wonderfully well upon soil that is by no means of the first quality and afford a continuous supply of fruit. The variety grown is the Cavendish banana. The climate of the Solomons appears eminently suited to it, and there is no doubt if there was direct steam communication with Sydney that planters would grow it for shipment.

During the coming year a return may be expected from the coco-nuts now growing at Tulagi. This will, of course, not be from those that have been planted, but from those previously growing, which never before bore fruit in consequence of being choked with bush. The process of clearing the land has now forced these into bearing.

Young trees planted so recently as December, 1898, have, however, recently shown signs of flowering, and, in another twelve months may be expected to give a small return.

GOVERNMENT STATION, GIZO.

This station, which was formed at the end of the year 1899, is situated in the western part of the Protectorate, and was established with the view of checking the head-hunting raids indulged in by the natives of the New Georgia Group and adjacent islands.

It possesses the advantages of an excellent harbour, a healthy situation (malarial fever being almost unknown), and a most picturesque situation, the view from the Residence being one of the most beautiful in the Protectorate.

The works originally consisted of a residence, and gaol and quarters for police and others.

To these have been added during the year an additional house for the police, a boat and canoe house, and a landing wharf of coral stone.

Advantage has been taken of an old native entrenchment, already existing, which has been improved and added to, to make the quarters occupied by the police secure from attack.

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901.

An area of land has been cleared and planted with coco-nuts and other native food.

From old coco-nut trees already existing upon the site, an amount of copra has been made and sold during the year, giving a net return of £33.

GOVERNMENT VESSEL "LAHLOO."

The Government vessel, which was purchased during the year 1899 by funds placed at the disposal of the Protectorate by the Imperial Government, has continued to perform everything that was to be expected from a sailing vessel in a locality where long periods of calm are interspersed with times of very bad weather.

The "Lahloo" has been maintained in the highest state of efficiency possible, and is now in a better condition than she was when she arrived from Sydney.

During the year she has been continually at work, except during the months of February and March, when she was unavoidably laid up in consequence of the loss of all her sails in an exceptionally severe gale encountered about the end of January.

Except for the period mentioned she has never been idle, and has visited all parts of the Protectorate, from Santa Cruz at one end to Lord Howe's Group and the Bougainville Straits at the other.

It is evident that to properly patrol the whole of the Protectorate, which now extends in a north-westerly and south-easterly direction for a distance of 1,000 miles, a sailing vessel is of but small use compared with a steamer.

Starting or returning from any given point, in any direction, it must be a dead beat for a sailing vessel one way or the other, supposing that there is any wind at all.

The long intervals of calm, lasting frequently for a week at a time, when for days and days a sailing vessel will helplessly drift with the tide or current, generally, by a strange fatality, it seems, in the direction exactly opposite to that in which it is intended she should go, are enough to break the heart of any but the most indifferent.

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901.

From the point of view of the "Lahloo," a current might well be defined as something that is invariably unfavourable.

VISITS OF WARSHIPS, &c.

During the season of 1900 the Protectorate was visited by H.M. ships "Pylades," "Torch," and "Ringdove."

The "Pylades" only called in passing at Santa Cruz, but the "Torch," and especially the "Ringdove," devoted considerable attention to this somewhat inaccessible part of the Protectorate, in consequence of illegal recruiting, kidnapping, and illegal supply of fire-arms having occurred there the previous year.

The "Torch" also conveyed the Resident Commissioner to hoist the British flag at the Islands of Ysabel, Choiseul, Gower Island, Lord Howe's Group, Shortland Island, and the other islands in the Bougainville Straits, which had been ceded to Great Britain by Germany by the Agreement of November, 1899.

The Protectorate was visited in February, 1901, by the Austrian warship "Leopard."

The visit of the "Leopard" was for the purpose of erecting a memorial to the memory of Baron Foullon von Norbeck and his companions, of the Austrian warship "Albatros," who lost their lives at the hands of the bush natives of Guadalcanar, while on a scientific expedition to the mountains of that island in 1896.

The memorial was duly erected at Tetere, on the north coast of Guadalcanar, and the "Leopard," after a stay of about ten days, left for Thursday Island.

In November, the German Government steamer "Stephan" arrived at Tulagi, with Herr von Benningsen, the Governor of German New Guinea. The "Stephan," after coaling at Gavutu, left for Lord Howe's Group, where a further supply of coal awaited her, and returned thence *via* the islands of Bougainville Straits to the Bismarck Archipelago.

POLICE FORCE.

The Police recruited at the end of 1899 and beginning of 1900, for service at the west end of the Protectorate, with the view of checking and suppressing the head-hunting raids en-

gaged in by the natives of New Georgia and adjacent islands, have, under the training of Mr. Mahaffy, developed into a most valuable force.

With the raw material placed in his hands Mr. Mahaffy has indeed worked wonders.

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901.

The establishment of the Gizo station, and the ever present force of police, have had a most deterrent effect upon the head-hunting instincts of the natives in the neighbourhood.

So far as Simbo and the Rubiana lagoon are concerned, head-hunting raids upon any extensive scale may be said to be things of the past.

The natives of Vella Lavella and Ronongo have still to learn their lesson, but, if fear is the beginning of wisdom, they may be said to have already passed the first standard.

The Government vessel "Lahloo" has been employed upon this work as much as possible, but to a large extent use has been made of a large head-hunting canoe, captured in January, 1900, from the natives of Kolokongo, in the Rubiana Lagoon, in punishment for a head-hunting raid upon the district of Bogotu in the Island of Ysabel.

PRISONS.

The number of native prisoners under detention at the Government Station at Tulagi during the year has been 15.

The offences were as follows:—

Murder	...	...	...	...	1
Theft	...	...	...	...	11
Sorcery	...	...	...	...	1
Assault	...	...	...	...	1
Incest	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 15 <hr/>

The number still under detention on 31st March was 12.

Of these, eight have been sent to Gizo, three of whom have been permitted to become policemen, three remain at Tulagi, and one has been released.

BRITISH
SOLOMON
ISLANDS,
1900-1901
—

A considerable number of petty offences, which used formerly to be brought to Tulagi, have been settled by the village chiefs of Gela, and afterwards reported, so that they do not appear in the return.

A fine, in addition to a term of imprisonment, was inflicted upon some natives of Russell Island for theft.

Fines amounting to ten pounds, in addition to the damage done, were imposed upon a chief of Gela and upon a missionary teacher of the same island for burning a native village.

A fine of £100 was imposed upon a white trader for supplying fire-arms to natives. The sentence also involved a bond in a similar amount for future good behaviour, but the trader in question having decided to leave the Protectorate the bond was not required.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 372.

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1901-1902.

(For Report for 1900-1901, see No. 347.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W. ;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH ;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-42.] Price 1½d.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900-1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900-1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900
354	Bermuda	1901
355	Gambia	"
356	Falkland Islands	"
357	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
358	Malta	"
359	Gibraltar	"
360	Straits Settlements	"
361	Sierra Leone	"
362	British Honduras	"
363	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
364	Seychelles	"
365	Bahamas... ..	1901-1902
366	Fiji	1901
367	Ceylon	"
368	Barbados	1901-1902
369	Hong Kong	1901
370	Cocos Islands	1902
371	St. Helena	1901

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand... ..	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas... ..	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific... ..	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas... ..	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
20	Wei Hai Wei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Cariba.

No. 372.

BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1900-1901, see No. 347.)

MR. C. M. WOODFORD to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government Residence,
Solomon Islands,

15th September, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour herewith to forward for your information a copy of my Report upon the affairs of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate for the twelve months expired on the 31st March, 1902.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES M. WOODFORD.

**REPORT OF THE BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS
PROTECTORATE FROM 1ST APRIL, 1901, TO
31ST MARCH, 1902.**

WHITE AND OTHER FOREIGN RESIDENTS.

The number of white and other foreign residents on 31st March, 1902, shows a slight increase over the number returned at the date of the previous report.

In the enumeration no account has been taken of the shipwrecked crew of the labour schooner "Fearless," who passed an enforced period of residence in the Protectorate from the end of January until April.

The total amounts to 83, of which 71 are males and 12 females.

Their employments and occupations were as follows:—

In Government employment	...	...	...	4
Melanesian Mission	...	...	...	4
Marist Mission	...	...	...	14
Engaged in industrial pursuits	...	...	...	45
Women and children	...	...	...	16
				—
Total				83
				—

The nationalities of the above were as follows:—

British	...	...	...	...	50
French (Marist Mission)	...	...	...	...	13
Germans	...	...	...	...	2
Scandinavians	...	...	...	...	3
Phillipine Islanders	...	...	...	...	4
Japanese	...	...	...	...	2
Half-castes, British subjects	...	...	...	...	9
				—	
Total				...	83
				—	

MORTALITY.

The following deaths are to be reported:

James Arthur, recruiter of the "Fearless," shot at Atta, Mala, on 19th April, 1901.

William Pitt, trader, died at Tulagi from the effects of a dynamite accident, 31st August, 1901.

John Fisher, cook of "Roderick Dhu," died from natural causes, 29th November, 1901.

George McCabe, recruiter of "Roderick Dhu," shot at Uru Mala, 23rd December, 1901.

John Young, employé, died of sunstroke at Awe, Bougainville Straits, 24th December, 1901.

Henry Clyne, master mariner, died of old age at Faiai, Bougainville Straits, January, 1902.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The Revenue shows a slight increase over the amount received during the previous twelve months.

The three most important heads of revenue, viz., Capitation Tax, Station License, and Ship License, have produced about the same as before.

A serious falling off is to be expected during the coming year in the receipts under the head of Ship License, in consequence of the enactment by the Commonwealth Government of Australia of "The Pacific Island Labourers' Act, 1901." Such falling off is estimated at between £400 and £500.

The estimated expenditure for the coming year is £2,112 10s.

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Period.						Revenue.	Expenditure.
						£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1897-1898	...	...	...	...	...	957 3 11	1,933 2 0
1898-1899	...	...	...	...	...	1,257 7 10	1,030 1 8
1899-1900	...	...	...	...	...	1,457 1 6	3,120 2 0
1900-1901	...	...	...	...	...	1,903 11 11	1,926 13 7
1901-1902	...	...	...	...	...	1,907 3 7	2,179 8 1
Estimate 1903	...	...	...	...	...	1,428 0 0	2,112 10 0

	£ s. d.
Cash in Bank of New Zealand, Sydney, 31st March, 1902.	1,039 9 8
Cash in chest, 31st March, 1902 ...	925 3 1
	£1,964 12 9
Less—Amount due to estates of persons deceased.	470 17 8
Protectorate Funds in hand, 31st March, 1902.	1,493 15 1

Statement of Exports for seven years ending 31st March, 1902.

Period.	Copra.	Ivory Nuts.	Pearl Shell.	Turtle Shell.	Bêche de Mer.	Green Shell.	Rattans.	Coco Nuts.	Palm Seeds.	Oil.	Planta.	Curios and Specimens.	Maize.	Sandalwood.	Canees.	Sundries.
1895	Tons. 1,200	Tons. 586	Ts. ca. 6-10	lbs. 891	s. ca. 7-18	Ts. ca. —	Bundles. —	Bags. —	Bags. —	Cask. —	Cases. —	Cases. —	Bushels. —	Tons. —	—	Cases. —
1896	1,883	600	8-9½	1,879	8-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1st January, 1897 to 31st March, 1898 (15 months).	1,688	580	8-8½	8,149	6-10	—	290	129	7	—	28	—	—	—	—	—
1st April, 1898 to 31st March, 1899.	1,456	85	8-15½	8,188½	4-6½	—	—	5	2	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
1st April, 1899 to 31st March, 1900.	1,661	20	15-17½	8,288	5-9½	31-6¼	—	20	Box 1	1	4	—	—	—	—	—
1st April, 1900 to 31st March, 1901.	2,188	100	Black. 9-8 Gold. 12-16	2,318	22-17	19	—	15	—	—	3	15	16	—	—	—
1st April, 1901 to 31st March, 1902.	2,315	182	Black. 8-10½ Gold. 18-12	2,780	7-4	8-5	—	1	—	—	2	54	160	7	4	9

Estimated value of Exports—1898-1899, £16,818; 1899-1900, £21,881; 1900-1901, £28,260; 1901-1902, £32,076.

TRADE.

EXPORTS.

Estimated value £32,076, as against £28,260 for the previous year, £21,381 in 1899-1900, and £16,818 in 1898-1899.

The most important articles of export, notably copra and pearl shell, show a satisfactory and progressive increase, but the large augmentation in the estimated value of the exports is due mainly to the enhanced price of copra.

The export of copra, by which the whole of the trade may be gauged, shows a steady increase for a period extending back to 1895, and the progress made will certainly be maintained.

Ivory nuts are again enquired for in small quantities. The demand is likely to continue.

Pearl shell of the more valuable quality shows a satisfactory increase.

Bêche-de-mer has not been so much sought for. The high price ruling for copra has caused traders to neglect for the time this very valuable product.

Stocks of green snail shell continue to be held back with the expectation of a rise in prices.

Some small quantity of so-called sandalwood was shipped during the year. It was shipped after the submission of samples, and it is presumed that the purchaser knew what he was buying.

Maize, for the first time, appears in the list of exports. It was grown as an experiment on the rich alluvial flats on the north coast of Guadalcanar, and proved to be of the finest quality. It realised the highest price ruling at the time in the Sydney market. Further planting has for the time been suspended in consequence of the incidence of the Australian Federal tariff of one and sixpence (1s. 6d.) per cental. Encouraged by the fact that grain-laden vessels have recently been ordered back from South Australia and even from the British Channel to Sydney in consequence of the scarcity prevailing, the grower has determined to try again, and a further shipment will shortly be made to Sydney or failing that port, a market will be sought in New Zealand.

IMPORTS.

As there is no Custom House and no Customs duty imposed upon imports into the Protectorate, it has not been considered necessary hitherto to schedule these.

An enquiry, however, having been received from the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia for information upon this subject, a list is appended of the imports from the port of

Sydney only, covering the period of six months from 1st October, 1901, to 31st March, 1902.

It is impossible, at present, to arrive at any accurate estimate of the value, but the list will serve to demonstrate the nature of the trade and the denominations of the articles in demand.

It must be noticed that the appended list refers to imports for the six months from the Port of Sydney only and that it by no means represents the whole of the imports into the Protectorate for the period.

No notice has been taken of the amount of imports introduced in labour ships either by returning labourers or carried on board the labour ships for the purposes of making presents to the friends and relatives of labourers engaged, but the quantity so introduced amounts to a considerable total.

The chief article of export is undoubtedly tobacco, followed by timber and building materials, boats and small vessels, coals, rice, drapery, cutlery, provisions, and ship-chandlery.

IMPORTS FROM PORT OF SYDNEY ONLY.

From 1st September, 1901, to 31st March, 1902 (6 Months)

Acid—2 boxes.
 Anchors—10.
 Anvil—1.
 Armlets (porcelain)—1 case.
 Axes—27 cases.
 Axe handles—7 cases.
 Beads—44 cases.
 Bacon—4 cases, 2 bags, 1 side.
 Bedsteads—5.
 Beer (bottled)—16 cases.
 Biscuits—211 crates—16,880 lbs.
 Blocks (wood)—2 cases.
 Boiler—1.
 Boats and Gear—17.
 Boat hooks—2.
 Boxes (wooden trade)—148, 2 packages, and 6 nests.
 Bolts and nuts—2 drums.
 Boots and shoes—3 cases.
 Bottles (stone)—2 crates.
 Brandy—4 cases.
 Brooms—1 bundle.
 Buckets (galv.)—14 bundles.
 Butter—13 cases.
 Cakes—1 case.
 Candles—3 boxes.
 Cattle—6.
 Canvas—3 trusses.
 Cans and covers (galv.)—6.
 Cartridges—11 cases.

Imports from Port of Sydney only.—cont.

Castings—1 case.
 Cement—26 casks.
 Cheese—2 cases.
 Church furniture—7 cases.
 Chain—11 lengths.
 Cigars—4 cases.
 Clocks—1 case.
 Clothing—2 bales.
 Coal tar—2 casks, 4 drums.
 Cocoa—10 cases.
 Coffee—1 case, 1 package.
 Cow rope—2 coils.
 Copper—2 packages.
 *Coals
 Crockery—1 cask.
 Cutter and gear complete—1.
 Curry—3 cases.
 Driving gear—3 cases.
 Doors—2 packages.
 Dogs—2.
 Drapery—52 cases, 4 packages, 2 bales, 1 truss.
 Drugs—7 cases.
 Enamel-ware—3 cases, 1 cask.
 Evaporated fruit—12 cases.
 Fish hooks—1 case.
 Fish (tinned)—34 cases.
 Flour—84 crates, 1 sack, 1 cask.
 Fruit (canned)—37 cases.
 Furniture—4 packages, 2 cases.
 Gin—53 cases.
 Ginger ale—2 cases.
 Golden syrup—1 case.
 Glass—2 cases.
 Groceries—10 cases.
 Grindstones—5.
 Hay—21 bales.
 Hardware—18 cases.
 Hatchets—6 cases.
 Hollow-ware—2 casks.
 Horses—2.
 Instruments—1 case.
 Iron (galv. copping)—5 bundles.
 „ (galv. roofing)—11 cases.
 „ ware—3 bundles and 48 pieces.
 „ hooping—6 bundles.
 Ironmongery—22 packages.

* No coals were introduced during the period covered by the present list, but the annual amount reaches about 1,000 tons. All from New South Wales.

Imports from Port of Sydney only.—cont.

Iron pots—6 crates.
„ bar—9 bundles.
„ railings—4 lengths, 2 cases.
Jams—8 cases.
Kava—1 case.
Kerosene—185 cases.
Kettles—1 cask.
Knives—8 cases, 1 cask.
Lanterns—15 cases, 1 crate.
Leatherware—2 cases, 1 bale.
Marmalade—1 case.
Maize—6 bags.
Masts and gear—6.
Matting—2 rolls.
Meat (tinned)—130 cases.
„ (salt)—46 kegs, a cask, 2 tierces.
„ (extract)—1 case.
Metal rods—1 bundle.
Milk (preserved)—26 cases.
Mirrors—1 case.
Molasses—4 hogsheads.
Mustard—1 case.
Musical instruments—1 case.
Muntz metal—3 cases.
Nails—5 cases, 1 keg.
Neatsfoot oil—1 case.
Onions—135 cases, 2 bags.
Oars—4 bundles.
Oil—24 drums, 4 cases.
Oilcans—2.
Oilskin coats—1.
Ochre—1 cask.
Paints—54 kegs, 26 drums, 3 cases.
Painkiller—1 case.
Peas—8 bags.
Paper (brown)—1 bundle.
Pepper—1 package.
Pickles—1 case.
Pipes (clay)—92 boxes.
„ (wood)—11 cases.
Pigs—8.
Plants—1 case.
Potatoes—100 cases, 16 sacks.
Puddings—1 case.
Rat traps—1 case.
Rice—1,007 bags, 1 tank, 550 cwt.
Rope (manilla)—42 coils.
„ (wire)—1 coil.
Ruberoid roofing—2 rolls.
Saddlery—5 packages.

Imports from Port of Sydney only.—cont.

Sacks—13 bales.
 Safe—1.
 Sails—11 bales.
 Salt—4 cases, 2 bags, 1 cask.
 Sauce—3 cases.
 Sarsaparilla—1 case.
 Shackles—1 bundle.
 Sausages—5 cases.
 Sundries—78 cases.
 Sleepers (railway)—10 bundles.
 Soups—4 cases.
 Soap—19 cases.
 Spades—1 case.
 Spars—4.
 Stationery—3 parcels.
 Stockholm tar—3 drums.
 Stones (hewn)—75.
 Sugar bags—1 bale.
 Sugar—33 crates, 37 bags, 1 case loaf.
 Syrup—4 cases.
 Tanks—6.
 Tapioca—1 package.
 Tea—12 cases, 2 boxes, 1 chest.
 Tent—1.
 Timber—4,584 pieces—43,048 feet.
 „ (box)—120 bundles—2,550 feet.
 Tools—1 bundle.
 Trunks—4 packages.
 Tobacco—143 cases, 2 parcels—21,052 lbs.
 Tombstones—4 cases.
 Tomato sauce—3 cases.
 Turpentine—2 cases.
 Turnips—1 case.
 Twine—2 bales.
 Tubs (galv.)—1 bundle.
 Varnish—1 case.
 Vegetables (tinned)—12 cases.
 Vestas—44 cases.
 Vinegar—3 cases.
 Whiskey—61 cases, 1 cask, 1 keg.
 Wine (sparkling)—5 cases.
 „ (still)—20 cases, 3 casks.
 Wire (netting)—7 rolls.
 „ (barbed)—27 coils.
 „ (rope)—2 coils.
 „ mattresses—3.
 Window sashes—3 packages.

LABOUR TRADE.

Eleven labour ships visited the Protectorate during the year, of which one was recruiting for Fiji and ten for Queensland.

The Fiji vessel made one trip and the ten Queensland vessels 21 trips.

The boats of the "Fearless" were fired upon at Atta, Mala, on 19th April, 1901, resulting in the death of the recruiter James Arthur. George M'Cabe, recruiter of the "Roderick Dhu," was shot at Uru, Mala, on 23rd December, 1901. The boats of the "Clansman" were fired upon at Langa Langa, Mala, on 18th February, 1902, and the boats of the "Rio Loge" at Anuta, Mala, in March, 1902. An information has been laid that the master and recruiter of a Queensland labour vessel supplied cartridges to natives at Langa Langa in March, 1902, but the case is at present under investigation.

Vessels from Queensland are rigidly searched for arms and ammunition before leaving, and additional precautions have been lately taken.

The following letter has been received from the Lieutenant-Governor of Queensland upon the subject:—

Government House, Brisbane,

2nd December, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of 21st September and 5th and 22nd of October last.

With reference to the surreptitious introduction of arms and ammunition into the Protectorate I have the honour to enclose an extract from a letter which I have received from Mr. Philp, the Prime Minister of Queensland, to whom I referred your letters for consideration.

I have, &c.,

S. W. GRIFFITH.

C M. Woodford, Esq.,

Resident Commissioner,

Solomon Islands.

(Enclosure in above.)

Extract from letter from Chief Secretary, Brisbane, dated 29th November, 1901, to Lieutenant-Governor:—

"I find upon enquiry that there is good reason to believe that these illegal transactions are carried out mainly by, or by means of, Islanders who have signed on at the Islands as boat's crews, and as these men live on board the vessels at Queensland ports,

and as their doings on board ship are, or ought to be, under the careful observation of those in charge, I have caused it to be notified to captains of labour vessels that in any case of discovery of concealed arms or ammunition on board one of these vessels the captain will be held responsible, and that in such case he will be liable to debarment from taking any further part, as captain, on board any vessel licensed to carry Pacific Islanders.

I have also directed that in searching the vessel, the examination shall not be confined to examining the boxes and quarters of the Islanders but shall be extended to the cabins of the captain and officers, and that after search has been made the Government Agent shall prevent any further communication with the shore. With these precautions, in addition to continued careful search by the Customs officers, I trust that a recurrence of the evil complained of will be effectually prevented. I regret that in neither of the instances given by Mr. Woodford is the information in the possession of the Government sufficient to enable the guilt to be brought home to the real offender, and I fear that from the nature of the circumstances it would always be difficult to procure such evidence as would be adequate to secure conviction. I think, however, that he will agree with me that under the stringent measures now to be adopted it is unlikely that occasion will arise for further complaint in the matter."

Labour vessels are also searched at Tulagi on their arrival and two discoveries of ammunition and one of a rifle were made during the year, the owners in each case receiving a sentence of imprisonment. In one case the cartridges were packed in a box made up to resemble tobacco.

The passing of the "Pacific Island Labourers' Act, 1901," by the Commonwealth Government of Australia will bring the Queensland labour trade to an end before 31st March, 1904, and Pacific Island labourers may be deported from Australia after 31st December, 1906.

Under the circumstances, it will be found necessary to take into consideration the provision of land where such deported natives may be settled.

In many cases it will be impossible for these unfortunates to return to the places whence they were recruited, as they may have left home in the first instance to escape the punishment of their own misdeeds.

Steps will be taken with a view to the reservation of an area or areas of land where such deported natives may have an opportunity of settling.

The Queensland labour vessel "Fearless" was totally wrecked on San Cristoval at the end of January, 1902. No lives were lost. The native recruits on board were transferred to another vessel, and the crew, after suffering considerable privations,

arrived at Tulagi in March, whence they returned to Sydney by the steamer.

During the present year it is expected that one labour vessel will visit the Protectorate from Fiji, and about five from Queensland.

The numbers recruited for Queensland from the Protectorate during the year ended 31st December, 1901, were 1,165, and the numbers returned during the same period were 557.

It will thus be seen that the cessation of the Queensland labour trade and the deportation from Queensland of the natives already recruited will result in a much larger number being available for local employment.

The natives of Mala especially, which supplied last year about two-thirds of the total number recruited for Queensland, having no cocoa-nuts to speak of or other means of supplying themselves with trade goods by means of the barter trade, have been forced to obtain such foreign goods as have now by long usage become necessities by means of the sale of their labour.

As the demand for labour in the Protectorate is a steady one and likely to be very much increased in the future, the abolition of the Queensland trade, although entailing present financial inconvenience, will probably in the end result in benefit to the Protectorate.

SHIPPING.

The conditions referred to in the Report for last year as to the inconvenience and loss entailed upon the traders of the Protectorate by the enforced détour of the Sydney steamer to Lord Howe, Norfolk Island, the New Hebrides, and Santa Cruz under the terms of the federal subsidy still continue.

Of the steamers running under the subsidy it is admitted that the Solomon Islands steamer alone is paying, and that by cargo carried to and from the Solomons.

It is true that there has been a certain quantity of cargo from Sydney to Norfolk Island lately in consequence of the landing of material for the new cable station, but in ordinary times the import and export trade of Norfolk Island would be adequately served by a 40-ton schooner, and that of Lord Howe by a good-sized whale boat.

For Santa Cruz there has been no cargo either inwards or outwards for three trips and only six letters, yet this call alone entails a deviation of 160 miles and the loss of a whole day.

With a direct service between the Solomons and Sydney the growth of bananas for shipment would be at once undertaken,

and the very superior quality of the Solomon Island product would enable it, in spite of the tariff, to be sold at a profit in the Sydney market.

The number of vessels employed locally in trading remains about the same as last year. Two have been lost, but their places have been taken by others.

AGRICULTURE.

The area under cocoanuts owned by white planters on 30th April, 1902, was as follows, as compared with the previous return:—

—	Acres, 1901.	Acres, 1902.
Santa Anna	20	20
Ugi	10	10
Marau Sound	35	35
Kaukau	100	100
Aola	200	200
Bara	3	3
Lunga	100	425
Gavutu	30	30
Vinula... ..	—	10
Government Station, Tulagi	75	105
" " Gizo	10	75
Lilihina	—	5
Rubiana	50	50
Faisi	10	10
Poporang	20	20
Awa	25	25
Fauro	300	300
Total	988	1,423

The cultivation of maize has for the present been suspended in consequence of the Australian Federal tariff, but with the high prices prevailing in Sydney for this product it is probable that it would still, in spite of the duty of 1s. 6d. per cental, pay to grow for export to the Australian market.

Bananas are being increasingly grown by the traders for food. With a direct steam service to Sydney, these, as well as pine-apples, would be exported, as they are much superior to the Queensland product.

It has been proposed to make an experiment in the direction of the shipment of dry fodder to Sydney. At present prices this would almost certainly prove remunerative.

MINERALS.

The prospecting party which explored the Island of Rendova last year with the view of working the copper known to exist there has for the present suspended operations. Of the presence of the mineral there is no doubt, and the intention is to resume operations when a rise in the price of copper takes place.

A concession for a period of two years has been granted to a Melbourne syndicate to collect sulphur from the Island of Vella Lavella. Work is on the point of commencement but no shipment has at present been made.

A license to prospect the Island of Saint George for valuable minerals has been applied for and will be granted.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The following is a table showing the rainfall observed at the Government Station at Tulagi since September, 1897, in inches:—

Month.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
January ...	—	9·51	14·27	12·20	10·93	18·31
February ...	—	28·55	12·04	3·09	12·46	27·76
March ...	—	27·89	17·47	13·48	10·83	22·39
April ...	—	6·67	20·48	2·29	6·75	8·53
May ...	—	4·19	8·85	5·83	17·59	4·55
June ...	—	4·86	1·26	3·20	10·69	7·85
July ...	—	4·86	24·27	3·24	5·53	—
August ...	—	9·94	8·33	3·01	13·24	—
September ...	—	10·58	10·92	5·41	10·35	—
October ...	2·91	10·23	11·21	9·12	15·60	—
November...	5·66	21·14	7·89	10·62	7·97	—
December...	11·03	8·97	19·03	10·83	11·91	—
Total... ..	19·60	147·39	156·02	82·32	133·85	—

Compare with the above:—

Rainfall at Santa Anna in 1883 ... 125·03 inches.

Rainfall at Ugi in 1883 146·24 „

Records of the rainfall have now been kept at Tulagi for nearly five years, and an opportunity is thus afforded for presenting a statement of the monthly average for that period.

It has been customary to speak of the months from April to November as the “dry” season, and the months from November to March as the “wet” season. This coincides with the period

of the change of the prevailing wind from the south-east trade to the north-west monsoon. The tabulated statement annexed bears out this idea.

The average for July is upset by a violent storm of rain which occurred in July, 1899, when over 15 inches of rain fell in three days. This appears to have been altogether an exceptional case.

Generally speaking, it would appear that February and March are the wettest months, and May, June, and July, the driest.

It must be noticed in the statement that the averages for August and September are based upon the returns for four years only.

Monthly average rainfall at Tulagi for five years ending July, 1902:—

January	...	...	...	...	...	13·04
February	...	...	...	...	...	16·78
March	...	...	...	...	...	18·41
April	...	...	...	...	...	8·94
May	...	...	...	...	...	8·20
June	...	...	...	...	...	5·57
July (4 years)	...	...	...	...	...	9·47
August (4 years)	...	...	...	...	...	8·63
September (4 years)	...	...	...	...	...	9·31
October	...	...	...	...	...	9·81
November	...	...	...	...	...	10·65
December	...	...	...	...	...	12·35

Annual average for the four years ending December, 1901, 129·89 inches.

GOVERNMENT STATION, TULAGI.

All the Government buildings have been maintained in good repair.

The trouble previously experienced from white ants at the Residence and other buildings appears to have been overcome by a plentiful use of kerosene and perchloride of mercury.

A causeway and steps of stone and concrete has been commenced leading from the Residence to the landing-place. This was found necessary on account of the bad state of the track in wet weather.

The Island of Tulagi is believed to be about six hundred acres in extent. At the time work was commenced upon it the whole Island was covered with dense forest, the larger trees exceeding eighty feet in height.

The area of land now under cultivation is about one hundred and twenty acres, of which one hundred and five acres are

planted with cocoa-nuts and the remainder with bananas and other food.

A remarkably fine piece of flat land, suitable for cocoa-nuts, estimated to contain twenty acres, is now being cleared.

The cocoa-nuts which were planted in December, 1898, and early in 1889 are already beginning to bear, and a small return has been received. Those planted later are making good progress.

The Island, which appears to be of volcanic formation, rises in places to a height of about 200 feet. The Residence stands at an altitude of about 180 feet.

Upon the south and south-west side of the Island there is a strip of flat land near the coast formed by the influence of the waves which have washed up sand and coral detritus upon the top of a previously existing shore reef.

This flat now stands about six feet above high-water mark and extends for a distance of about one hundred yards inland from the present coast line. Upon this sandy soil, mixed with vegetable humus, cocoa-nuts grow most luxuriantly.

Behind this sandy flat the surface level drops, perhaps, two or three feet, and the soil is composed of alluvial wash from the higher portions of the Island. This low belt extends up to the foot of the rocky core of the Island, and before clearing operations were commenced was a series of swamps upon which it was impossible to walk or to force a way through the exuberant growth of jungle.

All this low flat has now been cleared and drained. Clearing operations were commenced in June, 1897, with the help of eight Solomon Islanders who had been specially selected in Fiji. During the first month more than sixty days' work were lost in consequence of the workmen being attacked by malarial fever. The highest number of cases on some days was three out of the eight natives employed.

At the present time the health of the natives employed on Tulagi has much improved. Out of a force of fifteen natives employed, there was only one case of malarial fever reported for the five months expiring March 31st, 1902.

It is presumed that this improvement is to be attributed to the clearing and draining which has been undertaken.

It is to be regretted that the very valuable "Report of the Malaria Expedition," undertaken by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, has not been more widely disseminated. After repeated enquiries, the writer, being unable to obtain a copy in Sydney, had to order it specially from England.

The stagnant water in the swamps on Tulagi formerly swarmed with the larvae of Culicidae. The drains were cut from above downwards, and it is no exaggeration to say that when the first of the effluent matter was allowed to escape it consisted as much

of mosquito larvae as of water. In fact, an almost solid mass of larvae had collected at the lower end of the drain.

A recent careful search disclosed one place where the larvae of anopheles were discovered. This was in a stagnant pool of perhaps twelve feet by six feet in extent, caused by the tearing up of the ground by the fall of a large tree.

Temporary measures were at once taken to enfil the pool with kerosene, and it has since been filled up. The larvae found in this pool were undoubtedly those of anopheles.

A careful recent search has failed to disclose the presence of mosquito larvae in the drains either of culex or anopheles, but as the water is in constant motion this was not to be expected.

It is not to be supposed that malarial fever has been banished altogether from Tulagi. Every white person who has lived upon the Island has contracted it and continues to suffer from it, but it is certainly of less frequent occurrence than formerly.

Clearing and draining in other parts would doubtless produce a similar result.

GOVERNMENT STATION, GIZO.

Good work in the way of clearing and planting has been done at the Gizo Station. The area under cocoa-nuts has been increased from 10 acres to 75 acres.

Some additional native houses and an additional canoe house have been built.

A native settlement of about 75 people has been formed near to the Government Station.

These people asked permission to settle at Gizo for protection from the head-hunting natives of Vella Lavella.

A greater feeling of security is rapidly growing among the natives of the district, and parties from the surrounding Islands continually visit the Station. They thoroughly understand that it is wrong-doers only who are punished.

As Gizo possesses an excellent harbour it is probable that it will soon become a place of more importance. Stations will be formed there by the Rubiana traders, as by shipping their produce from Gizo the steamer will be saved the risks of the narrow and tortuous passage into the Rubiana lagoon.

GOVERNMENT VESSEL, "LAHLOO."

The Government vessel "Lahloo" has been continually employed during the year and has visited the whole of the Solomons from San Cristoval to Bougainville Straits.

No visit has been paid to Santa Cruz.

The greater part of the time the "Lahloo" has been employed in the western portion of the Protectorate in connection with the Government Station at Gizo, and especially during November during the punitive expedition to Vella Lavella, particulars of which have been already reported.

Canvas and rigging in such a hot and moist climate as the Solomons continually require attention.

Sails or awnings cannot be depended upon after they have been in use more than about eighteen months.

In consequence of the negligent workmanship in coppering the vessel in Sydney it was found that the worms had gained access to the rudder.

By the courtesy of Lieutenant-Commander Coates, the carpenter of H.M.S. "Sparrow" was permitted to effect repairs. Further repairs were afterwards found necessary, but it is believed that the cause of the mischief has been now entirely overcome.

In other respects the vessel has been maintained in a very high state of efficiency and smartness, reflecting the greatest credit upon her master and crew.

VISITS OF WARSHIPS, &c.

The Protectorate was visited by H.M.S. "Pylades" and "Sparrow" during the season 1901.

Among the places visited by the "Pylades" during her passage through the Protectorate was Sikiana or Stewart's Island.

This place is very seldom visited. Captain Tupper, of the "Pylades," reports that he called off the Island on the morning of October 3rd. Six canoes came off. In the first one came the chief, named Saymaru. He brought with him the copy of the Proclamation left by Captain Pollard of H.M.S. "Wallaroo," in 1897, and reported all well on the Island. About 36 men came on board of fine physique, with clear light brown skin. Most of them spoke English. They brought fruit, shells, and fine mats to trade, and wanted principally scent in exchange. They said their women wanted it. The canoes were of a superior type, dug-outs with out-riggers.

The "Sparrow" spent a longer time in the Protectorate, and visited the Santa Cruz Group and most of the Islands of the Solomons.

Punishment was inflicted at Mala on the bush natives living near Atta for the murder of the recruiter of the Queensland labour schooner "Fearless."

The German man-of-war "Cormoran" called at Gavutu for coals on her voyage from New Britain to Samoa in July.

PRISONS.

The number of native prisoners under detention at the Government Stations during the year was 23.

The offences for which they were detained were as follows:—

Smuggling arms and ammunition	...	...	2
Theft	...	...	15
Sorcery	...	...	1
Assault	...	...	2
Manslaughter	...	...	1
Murder	...	...	1
Inciting to breach of peace	...	...	1
			<hr/>
			23
			<hr/>

A native who received a sentence for manslaughter escaped from custody from Tulagi and is believed to have gone on board a Queensland recruiting vessel.

A prisoner escaped from Gizo and has not since been heard of. He is supposed to have been drowned.

The number of prisoners under detention on 31st March was 12.

C. M. WOODFORD.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.
1902.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 341.

C E Y L O N .

REPORT FOR 1900.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 307.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1901.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1901.

[Cd. 788-11]. *Price 2½d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
314	Hong Kong	1899
315	Southern Nigeria	1899-1900
316	Grenada	1899
317	Jamaica	1899-1900
318	British Guiana	"
319	Christmas Island	1900
320	British Solomon Islands	1899-1900
321	Lagos	1900
322	Bermuda... ..	"
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados	"
327	Bahamas... ..	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia... ..	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
336	British New Guinea	1899-1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand... ..	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas... ..	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific... ..	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas... ..	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 341.

CEYLON,
1900.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1899, see No. 307.)

GOVERNOR SIR J. WEST RIDGEWAY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Queen's Cottage,

Nuwara Eliya,

Ceylon, 20th September, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copies of the Ceylon Blue Book for the year 1900, together with copies of the usual report prepared in the Colonial Secretary's Office.

I have, &c.,

J. RIDGEWAY.

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1900.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The revenue of 1900 amounted to Rs. 27,325,930·56, compared with Rs. 25,913,141·58 in 1899, showing an excess of Rs. 1,412,788·98. The estimated revenue was exceeded by Rs. 2,205,930·56. In 1850 the revenue amounted to £415,667—say Rs. 6,235,005—less than one-fourth of the receipts of 1900.

el0118*—75—10/1901 Wt 25152 D & S—5

A 2

2. The comparative statement of the revenue of 1899 and 1900 shows:—

	Revenue of 1899.		Revenue of 1900.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.		
1. Customs	6,752,367	19	7,228,293	34	556,274	80,348
2 Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Lighth use Dues...	1,135,100	94	1,319,377	79	184,282	5 25
3. Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	5,630,772	41	5,796,008	85	174,502	9,266
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid.	1,642,617	36	1,723,488	62	102,359	21,487
5. Post and Telegraphs	906,325	67	996,802	86	97,725	7,248
6. Government Railways	7,626,888	97	8,239,679	9	645,354	32,564
7. Rent of Government Property	119,320	79	102,900	49	1,015	17,435
8. Interest	486,929	46	486,450	54	4,031	6,510
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	236,253	26	203,188	97	—	57,064
10. Sale of Government Property	517,863	24	404,944	18	5 16	112,924
11. Land Sales	826,702	29	818,795	83	3,868	11,774
Total	25,913,141	58	27,325,930	56	1,769,419	356,630
					356,630	6
					1,412,788	98

3. It is noticeable that while the first six heads of revenue contributed substantially to the gratifying increase the last five all showed a falling off.

Ceylon,
1900.

4. The only appreciable decline under Customs is an item of Rs. 61,098 on account of exports of plumbago, and was to be expected in view of the relaxation of the boom in that mineral. The important items among the imports, such as grain, cotton manufactures, spirits, sugar, &c., all showed signs of satisfactory expansion. Under Licenses, Excise, &c., salt and arrack yielded enhanced returns, and road, bridge, and ferry rents sold better. Fees of Court show a falling off under survey fees, due to shrinkage in the area of land sold. Post and Telegraphs disclose a large increase in the sale of postage stamps, in commission on money orders, telegraph receipts, and parcel post collections. Railways contributed an increase of Rs. 612,790·12, or nearly half the total excess.

5. The falling off under Rent of Government Property is due mainly to the proceeds of plumbago leases being now credited under another head, while the decline under Interest is attributable to the diminution of funds invested. Every item under Miscellaneous Receipts shows a decrease, but as such receipts are of a fluctuating nature, the decrease is not one which calls for special comment or explanation. The shrinkage of proceeds of sale of timber and firewood from Rs. 486,472·36 to Rs. 378,937·09 accounts for almost the entire decrease under Sale of Government Property. The decline of plumbago affected land sales (Premia on Leases), as a smaller area was leased out for mining purposes.

Expenditure.

6. The expenditure for 1900 was Rs. 28,948,927·17, including Rs. 3,626,939·17 on account of Railway Construction debited to Surplus Funds, and exceeded the expenditure of 1899 by Rs. 3,997,986·81.

The re-organization of the Post Office Department and the natural expansion of the Railway and the Public Works Departments involved additional claims on the public purse, and increased provision for Grants-in-aid to existing schools helped to swell the expenditure. The outlay under Exchange also rose materially. Savings were effected under Provincial Administration owing to decrease in the cost of the Immigration Service, due to the closing of the North road and smaller expenditure on account of salt manufacture. Hospitals and Dispensaries showed a decrease, but this is due to the figures of 1899 being unduly swollen by payments made in that year on account of 1898; and for the same reason there is an apparent falling off under Military Expenditure. Economies were effected under Plague Precaution, Forests, and Public Works Extraordinary.

7. The comparative statement of expenditure of 1899 and 1900 is as follows :—

Heads of Service.		1899.		1900.		Increase.		Decrease.	
		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1.	Charges on account of Public Debt	2,802,454	50	2,802,422	41	—	—	—	—
2.	Pensions	1,115,583	22	1,149,877	71	34,294	49	—	—
3.	His Excellency the Governor	124,292	54	125,031	78	739	24	—	—
3a.	Civil Service	667,973	70	661,511	68	—	—	6,462	2
4.	Secretariat	206,245	89	249,328	16	43,082	27	—	—
5.	Audit Office	49,156	66	49,160	75	4	9	—	—
6.	Treasury	39,413	1	40,086	85	673	84	—	—
7.	Provincial Administration	933,723	83	884,090	60	—	—	49,693	23
8.	Survey Department	608,697	75	638,314	52	29,616	77	—	—
9.	Customs Department	127,770	81	127,016	85	—	—	753	96
10.	Port and Marine Department, Colombo	307,271	36	319,218	42	11,947	6	—	—
11.	Port and Marine Department other than Colombo	41,557	90	34,212	78	—	—	7,345	12
12.	Botanic Gardens... ..	57,956	16	70,678	59	12,722	43	—	—
13.	Colombo Museum	23,963	7	25,851	99	1,888	92	—	—

[illegible]

CHYLOW,
1900.

Comparative statement of the expenditure of 1899 and 1900—continued.

Heads of Service.		1899.		1900.		Increase.		Decrease.	
		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
23. Military Expenditure	...	2,519,076	42	2,366,350	39	—	—	152,726	3
24. Miscellaneous Services	...	1,231,621	26	1,136,096	51	—	—	95,524	75
25. Government Stores	...	73,543	98	85,961	2	12,417	4	—	—
26. Crown Agents, London	...	2,704	46	2,083	66	—	—	670	80
27. Forests	...	378,484	50	341,313	79	—	—	37,170	71
28. Post Office and Telegraphs	...	964,414	56	1,098,798	17	134,383	61	—	—
29. Railway Department	...	4,098,601	43	4,366,298	45	267,697	2	—	—
30. Public Works Department	...	429,812	47	455,332	49	25,520	2	—	—
31. Public Works Annually Recurrent	...	1,758,447	38	1,896,243	19	137,796	81	—	—
32. Public Works Extraordinary	...	1,692,493	88	1,597,659	6	—	—	94,834	82
Total Expenditure		24,950,940	36	25,321,988	0	878,140	10	507,092	46
29. Railway Construction (Surplus Funds)	...	—	—	3,626,939	17	—	—	—	—
Total increases		...	...	371,047	64	...	...	...	...
		...	...	3,626,939	17	...	...	...	...
		...	...	3,997,986	81	...	...	...	...

8. In the annexed table the total revenue and expenditure of the last five years is given :—

	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Revenue	Ra. c. 21,974,573 414	Ra. c. 24,006,521 834	Ra. c. 25,138,669 26	Ra. c. 25,913,141 584	Ra. c. 27,325,930 56
Expenditure	21,237,859 66	21,634,377 94	22,843,851 89	24,950,940 86	25,321,988 0*
Expenditure from Surplus Funds	37,095 28	5,092 64	1,668 88	1,519 81	3,626,939 17†

* This includes Rs. 504,024·81 on account of irrigation under the new policy.
† This represents the expenditure for 1900 on account of railway construction under the new policy.

(B.) IMPORTANT CHANGES IN TAXATION.

Under this head there is nothing to record.

(C.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The total assets on the 1st January, 1901, were Rs. 20,756,099·06 and the liabilities Rs. 16,130,437·75 showing an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 4,625,661·31. From this excess must be deducted recoverable arrears of revenue and overpayments outstanding on 1st January, 1901, amounting to Rs. 125,891·50, and Rs. 3,000,000 appropriated in the Estimates of 1901 on account of Railway Extension and Irrigation. The net excess is, therefore, Rs. 1,499,769·81.

On the 1st January, 1900, the net excess of assets over liabilities was Rs. 2,859,067·39.

Ceylon,
1900.

CEYLON,
1900.

(D) PUBLIC DEBT, SHOWING PROVISION FOR PAYMENT.

The balance due by the Colony on its sterling debt raised in London amounted on December 31, 1900, to £3,419,451 1s. 5d., as against £3,445,839 17s. 3d. on the corresponding date in 1899, while the balance due on the local silver debt had been reduced from Rs. 3,253,191.72 to Rs. 3,239,585.31.

These loans are secured against General Revenue.

(E) CURRENCY.

Legal tender currency consists of Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 1,000 (issued last year for the first time), Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, and Rs. 5, the Indian rupee with a subsidiary silver coinage of 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces, and a copper coinage of 5-cent, 1-cent, $\frac{1}{2}$ -cent, and $\frac{1}{4}$ -cent pieces.

About half the face value of the paper issued is held in specie by the Currency Commissioners, the balance being invested in Indian Government paper and other approved securities:—

	Value.	
<i>Circulation.</i>		
Currency notes in circulation on December 31st, 1899.	—	Rs. 13,292,450 0
<i>Reserve.</i>	In Silver.	In Securities.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
By silver in the vault (6 cents copper) ...	6,277,609 56	—
By investments made by the Crown Agents	—	3,507,486 0
By investments made in Indian Government paper.	—	3,507,354 44
	6,277,609 56	7,014,840 44
Total ...	Rs. 13,292,450 0	

The Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd., the Bank of Madras, the National Bank of India, Ltd., the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China do business in the Colony.

(F.) COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1900.

Name of Municipality.		Revenue or Expenditure.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Colombo ... ..	...	{ Revenue ...	Rs. c. 786,597 49	Rs. c. 834,546 17	Rs. c. 922,189 17	Rs. c. 1,088,519 50	Rs. c. 1,152,137 58
		{ Expenditure ...	...	798,423 1	837,809 72	927,229 89	992,408 5
Kandy ... ..	...	{ Revenue ...	...	125,414 90	131,379 34	141,436 42	181,946 94
		{ Expenditure ...	...	119,217 71	166,774 19	150,032 87	183,671 31
Galle ... ..	...	{ Revenue ...	68,724 98	71,080 0	80,797 16	90,787 38	109,566 51
		{ Expenditure ...	66,812 43	79,321 69	83,164 72	84,439 26	87,629 69

Ceylon,
1900.

Ceylon,
1900.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE LOCAL BOARD AND THE BOARD OF IMPROVEMENT OF THE ISLAND FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDING ON DECEMBER 31ST, 1900.

Name of Local Board.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
WESTERN PROVINCE.						
Negombo	{ Revenue	Ra. c. 23,453 96	Ra. c. 23,647 59	Ra. c. 25,852 32	Ra. c. 20,493 60	Ra. c. 27,485 8
	{ Expenditure	31,813 11	21,071 12	25,963 71	28,716 97	24,330 84
Kalutara	{ Revenue	15,637 63	13,182 53	19,587 80	34,796 69	14,290 38
	{ Expenditure	13,275 31	15,807 61	13,192 40	31,358 0	17,429 54
Minuwangoda	{ Revenue	—	—	—	{ 1,683 48	2,397 37
	{ Expenditure	—	—	—	{ 1,092 78	1,557 90
CENTRAL PROVINCE.						
Matale	{ Revenue	7,221 17	8,065 76	8,275 37	9,827 51	10,430 95
	{ Expenditure	6,935 80	8,832 35	7,425 8	8,470 65	16,545 28
Gampola	{ Revenue	7,106 34	8,704 65	4,743 51	9,262 42	6,954 47
	{ Expenditure	7,664 25	8,490 36	4,189 22	11,347 65	7,107 84

* Includes expenditure from loans.

Ceylon,
1900.

Comparative Statement of the Total Revenue and Expenditure of the Local Board and the Board of Improvement of the Island for the Five Years ending on December 31st, 1900—continued.

Name of Local Board.		Revenue or Expenditure.		1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
SOUTHERN PROVINCE.		{ Revenue ... Expenditure ... }		Ra. c. 15,267 92	Ra. c. 13,559 77	Ra. c. 14,466 86	Ra. c. 13,508 44	Ra. c. 19,233 29
Matara ... ..	...			13,533 58	13,256 26	12,025 46	15,692 54	15,028 23
PROVINCE OF UVA.		{ Revenue ... Expenditure ... }		11,884 75	11,040 43	13,717 29	13,019 4	13,741 91
Badulla ... ..	...			13,150 94	13,643 2	11,800 50	14,821 45	13,365 26
PROVINCE OF SABARAGAMUWA.		{ Revenue ... Expenditure ... }		7,738 8	8,205 99	9,406 29	9,229 99	9,370 59
Ratnapura... ..	...			7,172 85	7,172 48	8,275 26	7,596 48	8,813 62
Kegalla ... ..	...	{ Revenue ...	...	4,406 96	3,787 67	3,574 74	5,383 66	4,679 90
		{ Expenditure ... }	...	3,412 43	3,505 55	4,498 86	4,093 79	4,812 18

(G.) STATEMENT OF DEBTS OF MUNICIPALITIES UP TO END OF 1900, SHOWING
PROVISION FOR PAYMENT.

Name of Municipality.	Amount of Debt.	On what account.	Provision for Payment.
Colombo	Ra. c. 20,000 0	For creation of the Health Department.	Ra. 10,000 is provided yearly in the Budget.
...	193,635 38	Waterworks construction. ...	The sums necessary to pay interest and sinking fund are voted in Budget, and special items of revenue are pledged to Government.
Kandy	99,285 90	Lands over Reservoir ...	Do. do.
...	15,988 45	Drainage	Do. do.
...	32,000 0	Lake silt and widening Victoria Drive.	Voted at the rate of Ra. 4,000 per annum with interest upon the amount due at time of payment.
...	61,975 89	Construction of waterworks ...	Water-rate of 5 per cent. levied on all immovable property within Fort of Galle for payment of interest and sinking fund.
Galle	15,693 96	Sanitary Improvements ...	Mortgage to Government of Stamp Duties on Licenses, on Carts, Boats and Coaches; and Fees and Stamp Duties under Licensing Ordinance, 1873, and Ordinance No. 23 of 1877.

CEYLON,
1900.

STATEMENT OF DEBTS OF LOCAL BOARDS AT THE END OF 1900, WITH PROVISION FOR REPAYMENT.

Name of Local Board.	Amount of Debt.	On what account.	Provision for Repayment.
	Ra. c. 5,698 56	For construction of public market	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 6,784.
	13,376 0	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 15,200.
	3,600 0	Do.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 4,000.
	2,350 0	Do.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 2,500.
	400 0	For improvement of drainage ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 20 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 1,000.
Puttalam	5,880 0	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 7,000.
Ratnapura	2,749 98	For water-rate	Repayable from Local Board revenue at the rate of Rs. 458.33 per annum.

CEYLON
1900.

Negombo ...	...	...	9,333 36	For construction of a bridge ...	To be repaid from Local Board revenue in seven- teen years.
			12,320 0	For construction of market ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sink- ing fund of 1 per cent. on the original loan.
			3,600 0	Additional loan for market con- struction.	Repayable from Local Board revenue in ten years.
			78,061 0	For waterworks ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan.
Nuwara Eliya ...	...	...	8,820 0	For construction of Library and Reading Room.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 1 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 9,000.
			14,800 0	For market construction ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sink- ing fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 20,000.
			320 0	For opening the general cemetery	Repayable from Local Board revenue in seven years.
Betticaloa ...	...	...	2,610 0	For drainage of the town...	Repayable from Local Board revenue in ten years.
			2,670 0	For improvement of the Fishers' quarters.	Repayable from Local Board revenue in fifty years.
Trincomalee ...	...	...	13,030 49	For water supply ...	Repayable from Local Board Revenue by a sink- ing fund at the rate of 2 per cent. half-yearly.
			10,000 0	For drainage of the town...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sink- ing fund at the rate of 2 per cent. half-yearly.
Nawalapitiya ...	...	...	

10118—6

B

CEYLON,
1900.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

1. The annual value of the trade of the Colony for the last five years was :—

Year.			Imports.		Exports.		Total.	
			Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1896	...	...	77,083,587	29	85,352,428	81	162,436,016	10
1897	...	...	85,730,156	92	83,229,303	45	168,959,460	37
1898	...	...	87,525,034	97	93,801,890	13	181,326,925	10
1899	...	...	101,542,220	61	111,405,649	99	213,007,870	60
1900	...	...	114,544,256	41	106,006,460	55	220,550,716	96

Imports.

2. The value of the imports for the year 1900, including specie (Rs. 7,795,501·53), was Rs. 122,339,757·94.

3. The value of the imports and specie imported into each Province during 1900 was :—

				Value.			
				Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
<i>Imports.</i>							
Western Province	...	...	...	105,363,743	27	—	
Northern Province	...	...	...	2,990,690	97	—	
Southern Province	...	...	...	5,579,948	14	—	
Eastern Province...	...	...	...	609,874	3	—	
						114,544,256	41
<i>Specie.</i>							
Western Province	...	...	...	—		7,795,501	53
Total	...	...	...	...	...	122,339,757	94

4. Comparing the imports of 1900 with 1899 the duty on arms and ammunition has risen from Rs. 57,510·56 to Rs. 70,546·55, an increase of Rs. 13,035·99.

Cotton manufactures show a total value of Rs. 7,917,770·98 against Rs. 6,933,311·46, and duty of Rs. 305,073·62 against Rs. 278,360·24.

Ceylon,
1900.

Chemicals, dye stuffs, and tanning substances show an increase of Rs. 1,079·67 in duty.

Cement shows an increase in value of Rs. 84,019·70 and in quantity of 1,500 tons. The quantity of cement imported as Government stores was valued at Rs. 211,354·89 against Rs. 119,684·23 in 1899.

Coal, Coke, and Patent Fuel.—The quantity imported was 590,099 tons against 511,692 tons in 1899, an increase of 78,407 tons, British India and Japan contributing principally to the increase. Colombo imported 84,216 tons of coal more than in 1899, while the increase in Galle was 5,814 tons.

Kerosine oil shows an increase of 550,995 gallons on the quantity imported, of 214,796 gallons on the quantity entered for home consumption, of Rs. 344,372·02 in value, and Rs. 60,450·16 in duty.

Food stuffs generally, such as biscuits, beef and pork, butter, cheese, flour, and potatoes show an increase.

Grain.—The quantity of grain cleared for home consumption was 9,592,323½ bushels against 9,178,405 bushels, the duty recovered amounting to Rs. 3,015,556·18, that on rice alone being Rs. 2,783,546·57.

There is an increase in the value of live stock imported of Rs. 400,413. The number of cattle rose from 20,888 to 26,539, of sheep from 79,628 to 96,330, and of horses from 503 to 534.

Metal and metalware shows an increase in value of Rs. 1,860,964·50.

Manures of all kinds have risen from 14,282 tons to 19,766 tons, the increase in value being Rs. 276,505·06.

Oils (excluding kerosine oil) show an increase in value of Rs. 202,179·81 and a decrease in duty of Rs. 2,255·96.

Opium.—The quantity of opium imported is greater by 7,611 lbs.

Spices show an increase in value of Rs. 17,531·74 and in duty of Rs. 1,149·93.

The quantity of poonac imported shows an increase of 3,134 cwts. 1 qr. 12 lbs.

Spirits of all kinds show an increase in value of Rs. 137,356·20 and in duty of Rs. 79,910·83. The quantity entered for home consumption was 171,045 gallons against 152,520 gallons, the chief increases being in gin and brandy.

Sugar shows an increase in quantity of 29,622 cwts. 2 qrs. 3 lbs., and in duty of Rs. 79,302·19.

The imports of specie show a decrease of Rs. 2,654,626·99, the decrease being mainly in gold.

CEYLON
1900.

Silk manufactures of all kinds show an increase of Rs. 121,611·59 in value and of Rs. 2,220·55 in duty.

Woollen manufactures show a decrease in value of Rs. 94,430·77 and in duty of Rs. 5,377·74.

Tobacco shows an increase in quantity imported of 105,054 lbs. and cigars of 1,777 lbs.

Wines of all kinds show an increase of Rs. 9,351·95 in value and of Rs. 4,220·37 in duty, the total quantity entered for home consumption being 60,863·11 gallons against 54,845·24 gallons.

Exports.

1. In 1900 the value of exports amounted to Rs. 108,926,256·55. distributed as follows:—

Exports.				Value.	
				Rs.	c.
Ceylon produce	...	...	...	90,868,532	0
Imports re-exported	...	...	...	1,173,943	55
Specie	...	...	...	2,919,796	0
Coal for use of steamers	...	...	...	13,963,980	0
Total	...	...	...	108,926,256	55

Compared with 1899, Ceylon produce shows a decrease of Rs. 9,227,149·34, mainly attributable to the smaller shipments of plumbago, the price of which during the year fell heavily, while the market was inactive, the inevitable reaction after the boom of 1899.

Imports re-exported, however, show an increase of Rs. 183,009·90, the value of coal exported for the use of steamers an increase of Rs. 3,584,950, and the exports of specie of Rs. 2,429,509.

2. The value of exports to the United Kingdom fell from Rs. 61,076,138·03 in 1899 to Rs. 56,295,524·57. Exports to British Colonies rose from Rs. 14,135,597·42 in 1899 to Rs. 18,086,705·01, the exports to Foreign Countries falling from Rs. 26,365,171·54 in 1899 to Rs. 20,580,046·97, a decrease largely accounted for by the fall in plumbago, both in quantity and value. The exports of tea to Russia (Asiatic and European) rose by 4,713,751½ lbs., which is more than the entire exports of 1899; but that to the United States shows a decrease of 282,641½ lbs. The value of direct exports to Russia (Asiatic

and European) of Ceylon produce exceeded that of 1899 by Rs. 1,543,550.18, while there was a fall in the value to the United States of America from Rs. 13,667,360.24 in 1899 to Rs. 6,602,935.13.

CEYLON,
1900.

3. In the staple articles of export cardamoms show an increase of 785 cwts. 5 lbs.; cinnamon a fall from 49,116 cwts. 3 qrs. 20 lbs. in 1899 to 41,215 cwts. 1 qr.; coir yarn, fibre, and rope exported from the two principal ports (Colombo and Galle) has increased by 26,317 cwts.; copperah exported from Colombo and Galle, also shows an increase of 84,019 cwts. The exports of citronella oil have decreased by 2,454,362 oz. Of tea, the quantity exported rose from 129,661,908 lbs. in 1899 to 149,264,602 lbs.; of plumbago 391,700 cwts. were exported in 1900, as against 635,224 cwts. in the preceding year, while there was also a fall in value from Rs. 700 in 1899 to Rs. 500 per ton.

(B) MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

1. The fall in the value of plumbago exercised a check on mining operations, which are carried on principally in the North-Western, Central, and Western Provinces, and many of the smaller mines were abandoned. The larger pits yielding the better qualities of the mineral, and those whose owners held substantial capital and employed skilled European supervision showed an increased output and prospered fairly.

2. In Kurunegala only 50 plumbago pits were worked, compared with 154 in 1899, and in the Southern Province only 30 acres were leased as against 117. In the Central and Western Provinces similar signs of the depression of the industry were manifest.

3. The number of gem pits in the Province of Sabaragamuwa rose from 280 to 404, which would lead to the inference that this form of mining is a profitable, although naturally a speculative, investment.

4. The chief manufactures are cloth weaving, jaggery, oil (cocoanut, gingelly, and citronella), copperah, coir, bricks and tiles, mats, tobacco, jewellery, carpentry, &c.

5. The manufacture of salt is in the hands of the Government, and the monopoly of the sale yielded the substantial sum of Rs. 1,106,568.65.

6. The fisheries of the Northern, Eastern, and North-Western Provinces were successful, but no progress is to be recorded in respect of the methods of curing the produce. There was no oyster pearl fishery, nor is it expected that the banks will be ready to be fished for another year or two. The young oysters have a disappointing way of disappearing before they come to maturity, and have many enemies to contend with. An expert will visit Ceylon next year to investigate and report on the best measures for their protection.

CEYLON,
1900.

(c) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

1. The chief agricultural products are paddy, tea, cocoanuts, cacao, tobacco, and spices.

2. The export of tea increased by 20,000,000 lbs. and reached 149,264,602 lbs., valued at Rs. 53,735,257. The export to Russia rose by 5,000,000 lbs., the export to Australia by 2,000,000 lbs., and to America by 1,000,000 lbs. The price realized in London fell 10 per cent. to 7·20*d.* per pound. Cultivation is extending in Southern India, Java, and elsewhere, and it is feared that the full effect of over-production has not yet been felt, and that the tea industry has a trying period before it. The remedy would appear to be in selecting specially trained managers, plucking for quality rather than quantity, improvement of the *jat* of tea planted, careful protection against disease, and improved methods of manufacture.

3. Of coffee only 10,777 cwt. were exported in marked contrast to the days when coffee was king.

4. The export of cacao decreased considerably, but the prices obtained were good. This plant is susceptible to canker and attacks of *Helopeltis*, and the pods offer so strong an attraction to thieves that the possession of green cacao without valid explanation is a statutory offence.

5. Coconut cultivation continued to expand, and there was an increase in the export of all the products of this most useful tree, including oil, copperah, desiccated coconut, poonac, coir, &c.

6. Cardamoms are being more extensively cultivated from year to year, but a considerable fall in price is to be anticipated. Cinnamon has also declined in value.

7. In favourable localities Indiarubber is doing well, and a large quantity of seed was exported to Burmah and the Straits. Samples prepared locally have been favourably reported on in Europe, and promise a future for this product.

8. Fibrous plants abound in Ceylon, but their cultivation is not systematically pursued.

9. Camphor came into prominence during the year. Owing to the monopoly established by Japan the price of crude camphor rose to 200*s.* a cwt., and if this price is maintained there is some prospect of growing the plant profitably in Ceylon, where it succeeds well in many districts. A series of distillation experiments yielded fairly promising results.

10. Tobacco cultivation is fairly remunerative, but there is reason to fear over-production; as Southern India affords the only market for Ceylon's surplus output. The quality is not high class.

11. Citronella oil has fallen in value, and it now barely pays to cultivate the grass.

*Botanical Stations.*CEYLON.
1900.

12. As usual the work of the Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens was carried out chiefly at Peradeniya. His staff has recently received a material acquisition of strength by the appointment of a Mycologist, an Entomologist, and an Agricultural Chemist, who have done much in the way of investigating disease, analyzing soils, &c., and generally advising the planting community as to the introduction of new products and the protection of existing ones.

13. Throughout the Island there are numerous experimental gardens from which new plants are furnished to the villagers for cultivation. The villagers are very conservative, but are quick enough to adopt any innovation that will pay, and the holding of local agricultural shows will no doubt in time weaken many of their old-fashioned prejudices.

(D) LAND GRANTS AND VALUE OF LAND.

1. During the year 32,250 acres of land were alienated by the Crown by sale or settlement, as against 21,301 in 1899.

2. Under Sir Henry Ward's Minute 3,655 acres were sold for paddy cultivation.

3. The prices realized showed a falling off, the average being Rs. 19.80 against Rs. 34.20.

4. The Survey Department again had a busy year, carrying out block surveys of 235,039 acres, topographical surveys of 2,628,487 acres, application surveys of 20,801 acres, and miscellaneous surveys of 1,516 acres.

The acquisition of land for the Northern, Uda Pussellawa, and Kelani Valley Railways involved a large number of surveys, and the claims of the Irrigation Department continued to increase.

(E) SHIPPING.

1. The shipping returns for the Island show a decrease of 1,335 in the number of vessels, but an increase of 1,048,735 tons in tonnage :—

	1899.		1900.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	3,845	3,721,782	3,147	4,250,066
Cleared	3,840	3,717,423	3,203	4,237,874
Total	7,685	7,439,205	6,350	8,487,940

CEYLON,
1900.

2. The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered inwards and cleared outwards in 1900, exclusive of those calling to coal and for orders at Colombo and Galle, are shown:—

	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Colombo—						
Inwards ...	1,729	3,774,501	567	58,243	2,296	3,832,744
Outwards ...	1,739	3,775,576	565	58,128	2,304	3,833,704
Total ...	3,468	7,550,077	1,132	116,371	4,600	7,666,448
Galle—						
Inwards...	172	324,877	16	1,283	188	326,160
Outwards ...	170	322,300	16	1,283	186	323,583
Total ...	342	647,177	32	2,566	374	649,743

The arrivals at the Port of Colombo show an increase in steamers of 470 aggregating 1,587,123 tons, and in sailing vessels of 14 vessels aggregating 1,439 tons as compared with 1899. Galle shows an increase of six steamers aggregating 33,752 tons, and of four sailing vessels aggregating 375 tons; altogether showing an increased tonnage of 34,127 for the year.

3. The nationality of vessels inwards and outwards during 1900 for the Island is as follows:—

Nationality.	Entered Inwards.		Cleared Outwards.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,516	2,952,490	1,542	2,937,212
Colonial	1,157	101,970	1,187	105,056
Austrian	48	126,567	48	126,567
French	103	228,291	103	228,291
German	135	479,513	135	479,513
Japanese	53	187,325	53	187,325
Carried forward	3,012	4,076,156	3,068	4,063,964

NATIONALITY OF VESSELS—*cont.*

CEYLON,
1900.

Nationality.	Entered Inwards.		Cleared Outwards.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Brought forward	3,012	4,076,156	3,068	4,063,964
Maldivian ...	81	10,217	81	10,217
Russian ...	23	78,301	23	78,301
Danish ...	3	5,839	3	5,839
Spanish ...	15	45,098	15	45,098
Norwegian...	8	22,297	8	22,297
Italian ...	4	10,461	4	10,461
Dutch ...	1	1,697	1	1,697
Total ...	3,147	4,250,066	3,203	4,237,874

4. Compared with the years 1896, 1897, 1898, and 1899, the result inwards and outwards is as follows:—

Inwards.

1896.—A decrease of 806 vessels, but an increase of 723,743 tons.
 1897.—A decrease of 624 vessels, but an increase of 882,651 tons.
 1898.—A decrease of 404 vessels, but an increase of 644,360 tons.
 1899.—A decrease of 698 vessels, but an increase of 528,284 tons.

Outwards.

1896.—A decrease of 780 vessels, but an increase of 684,519 tons.
 1897.—A decrease of 582 vessels, but an increase of 900,542 tons.
 1898.—A decrease of 343 vessels, but an increase of 760,939 tons.
 1899.—A decrease of 637 vessels, but an increase of 520,451 tons.

CEYLON
1900.

III.—LEGISLATION.

The legal enactments of 1900 are:—

An Ordinance to repeal certain Ordinances.

An Ordinance for Incorporating the Council of Legal Education.

An Ordinance to amend "The Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund Ordinance, 1898,"

An Ordinance to consolidate the Law regulating the carriage of Passengers and Goods by Boat.

An Ordinance to further amend Ordinance No. 1 of 1897, intituled "An Ordinance relating to Claims to Forest, Chena, Waste, and Unoccupied Lands."

An Ordinance to provide for raising a sum not exceeding £100,000 Sterling for the Public Service.

An Ordinance to prohibit the Exportation to China of Arms, Military Stores, and other Goods.

An Ordinance to amend the Ordinance No. 1 of 1889, intituled "The Courts Ordinance, 1889."

An Ordinance to provide for the taking of a Census from time to time.

An Ordinance to amend "The Road Ordinance, 1861," and "The Road Ordinance, 1861, Amendment Ordinance, 1884,"

An Ordinance to amend "The Small Towns Sanitary Ordinance, 1892,"

An Ordinance relating to the Exportation of Arms, Ammunition, and Military and Naval Stores.

An Ordinance to amend the Ordinances No. 17 of 1869, No. 11 of 1891, and No. 18 of 1896, relating to Customs in the Island of Ceylon.

An Ordinance to raise a Loan of £1,400,000 Sterling for the construction of Railway, Irrigation, and other Public Works.

An Ordinance for the better preservation of the Antiquities of the Island.

An Ordinance to amend "The Municipal Councils' Ordinance, No. 7 of 1887."

An Ordinance for making provision for the Contingent Services for the Year 1901.

An Ordinance to provide for the further appropriation of certain Unclaimed Balances from the Loan Board.

An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to the Registration of Marriages in this Island other than the Marriages of Kandyans or Mohammedans.

An Ordinance to amend the Ordinance No. 6 of 1900, intituled "An Ordinance to provide for raising a sum not exceeding £100,000 Sterling for the Public Service."

- An Ordinance further to amend the Law relating to Notaries.
- An Ordinance for making provision for the Supplementary Contingent Charges for the Year 1900.
- An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to the Registration of Births and Deaths in this Island.

Ceylon,
1900.

IV.—EDUCATION.

PRIMARY EDUCATION: MAIN FEATURES AND NUMBER OF SCHOOLS.

(a) *Primary Education.*

1. The number of children receiving primary education in Government and aided schools was in 1900 159,494, of whom 115,564 were boys and 43,930 were girls. Of this total 48,223 were attending Government schools and 111,271 were attending aided schools. The total number of the schools here classed as primary was 1,765, of which 497 were Government Schools and 1,268 were aided schools.

Primary education in English was being given to 11,298 children: 10,408 boys and 890 girls. The remainder, viz., 148,196 children, was receiving instruction in the vernacular only. Of this number 105,156 were boys and 43,040 were girls. The cost of the Government schools was Rs. 198,635·87, and the sum paid as grants to the aided schools was Rs. 329,727·40.

2. In addition to the above there were 1,991 unaided vernacular schools which furnished numerical returns to Government; in these 33,738 children were said to be receiving instruction.

3. If the question is raised how far the elementary education provided is adequate to the wants of the population, the number of those receiving higher instruction should be added to the above figures: this gives as the total number of children attending schools 208,274, i.e., about 6 per cent. of the population. It may be inferred that about half the children of school-going age are getting something in the way of education. Probably rather more than half are learning to read and write; for a large proportion of children leave school after passing the Second or Third Standard. The number presented for examination in the Fourth Standard is less than two-fifths of the number presented in the First Standard.

4. The children who are receiving no education at all are mainly those living in outlying country districts. The towns,

Ceylon,
1900.

as a rule, are well provided for by Missionary schools and other private agencies.

5. Provision for compulsory attendance forms a part of the Gansabhawa rules in some country districts; in many of these it is enforced with creditable vigour. In most country districts and in all towns there is no means of enforcing school attendance.

(b) *Secondary Education.*

6. The only Government institution devoted to secondary education is the Royal College, Colombo, in which the number of pupils has for some years averaged a little over 300; in 1900 it averaged 288. The pupils in the upper classes of the College are presented for the Cambridge Local Examinations (Senior and Junior), London University Matriculation, and Intermediate in Arts. The staff consists of 16 masters, five of whom hold English University degrees. The gross cost to Government in 1900 was Rs. 40,455·25, of which the sum of Rs. 20,515 was recovered in school fees. Besides the Royal College there are 60 aided High schools, educating 9,480 pupils, of whom 7,093 are boys and 2,387 are girls. There are also 60 unaided institutions, at which 2,925 pupils are said to be under instruction, but only a very small number of these are really receiving secondary education.

7. The encouragement offered by Government takes two forms: (a) Grants, (b) Scholarships:—

(a) In aided schools grants for specific subjects as well as for work in the standards are paid on the results of the Government examination in each school. Liberal grants are also paid for every pupil who obtains honours in the Senior or Junior Cambridge Local Examination, or who passes the London University Matriculation or Intermediate in Arts. The total sum expended in grants to the High schools in 1900 was Rs. 44,891.

(b) The English University Scholarship of £200 for four years is awarded annually on the result of a special examination held by the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board for School Examinations.

The Gilchrist Scholarship of £150 for three years for Mathematics and Science is awarded once in three years on the results of the Senior Local Examination.

One scholarship of Rs. 240 for three years is awarded annually to girls on the results of the Senior Cambridge Local Examination. On the results of the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one scholarship of Rs. 240 for three years and two of Rs. 120 for three years are awarded annually to boys and two scholarships of Rs. 120 for three years are awarded annually to girls.

In 1900 the total sum expended on scholarships was Rs. 20,944·74.

8. On the whole very creditable results are obtained in these examinations by which secondary education is tested. In 1900 ten candidates passed the London Matriculation, three in the First Division, seven in the Second Division; one candidate passed the London LL.B. Examination in the Second Division; 61 candidates passed the Senior Cambridge Local Examination, 14 obtaining honours; 145 passed the Junior Cambridge Local Examination, 24 obtaining honours.

Ceylon,
1900.

INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL, AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

9. There are no Government industrial schools, but industrial education is supported by a liberal grant. In 1900 the aided industrial schools, which are 30 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 32,057·56. These schools are under the management of the Church of England, Roman Catholic, Wesleyan, and American Missions. The number of pupils in them was 1,750. The trades taught were dressmaking 146, lace-making 641, embroidery 346, cooking 17, spinning 49, tailoring 74, shoemaking 8, joinery and cabinet-making 252, printing 68, bookbinding 116, ironwork 23, warping 6, bundling 2, and drawing 2. In some of these schools the work is excellently organized, each trade being under a skilled foreman, and sufficient outlay having been made to supply a really adequate stock of tools and plant. This is specially the case with the Roman Catholics, who place trained lay brothers in charge of each trade. In others the outlay on tools and plant has been insufficient, the trades are supervised by native foremen of an inferior character, and the management is in the hands of those who have no practical knowledge of the industries which are being taught. In 1900 an important step was taken in the direction of better organization. A schedule was drawn up, setting out three years' work in joinery, printing, bookbinding, and prescribing tests, the passing of which will in future be a necessary condition of earning a grant. These schools which form the only provision for elementary technical education may be expected in the future to increase considerably both in numbers and efficiency.

10. Higher technical education is provided for by the Technical College, a Government institution established in 1893. In 1897 it was re-organized and its work largely extended. It is now the regular channel of admission for Ceylonese to the following Departments:—Public Works, Survey, Railway, Post, and Telegraph. It contains Departments of Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Telegraphy, Electrical Engineering, Surveying and Levelling, and Drawing. In 1900 the number of students was 96. The gross cost to Government was Rs. 28,956·11, of which sum Rs. 5,396·77 was recovered in fees, &c.

11. A School of Agriculture has been maintained by Government since the year 1884. The numbers in 1900 were 17, and

CEYLON,
1900.

the gross cost to Government was Rs. 10,554.44, of which sum Rs. 1,303.90 was recovered in fees. A forestry class of five students is also carried on under the supervision of the Superintendent.

The School of Agriculture has not realized the anticipations which were formed with regard to it. Its future organization is now under consideration.

12. The question of the cost of education to the Government is becoming a serious one in view of the ever-increasing demands of the Public Instruction Department, and the advisability of imposing a cess for educational wants is receiving consideration, but it is by no means a simple matter to devise in an Eastern country the machinery for securing its recovery and preventing its incidence being unduly or harshly felt.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A) HOSPITALS AND (B) ASYLUMS.

1. During 1900 there were 64 hospitals and asylums in operation, the immigrant hospital at Vankalai being rendered superfluous by the closing of the North road cooly route.

2. The number of patients treated in the civil and lying-in hospitals increased by 6,611, rising to 41,906. The daily average was 1,679 against 1,461 in 1899. The deaths numbered 3,735.

3. In the field hospitals 4,364 cases were treated with 154 deaths, the immigrant hospitals dealt with 1,944 cases with 79 casualties, and the district hospitals with 13,785 patients, of whom 2,454 succumbed.

4. The Lunatic Asylum sheltered 139 new-comers, the total number of inmates being 606. There were 55 discharged as cured and 38 deaths.

5. The Leper Asylum received 137 new patients, and the total lepers under treatment numbered 399.

6. The De Soysa Lying-in Home, the Lady Havelock Hospital, the Police Hospital, Colombo, the Grenier Eye, Ear, and Throat Infirmary, the Kalmunai Leper Hospital, the Friend-in-Need Society Hospital at Jaffna, and the Kanatta Infectious Diseases Hospital all did good work.

(C) POOR HOUSES.

Ceylon is fortunate in requiring no such institutions. Deserving cases of poverty are relieved by private effort, which is represented by the Friend-in-Need Society of Colombo, which has branches in many out-stations. To the funds of this Society

the Government contributed Rs. 22,650 in 1900 as well as granting small monthly allowances direct in certain cases.

CEYLON,
1900.

(D) REFORMATORIES.

The only institution of this nature is the industrial school at Maggona, where efforts are made to reclaim youthful offenders.

(E) SAVINGS BANKS.

1. The Ceylon Savings Bank, Colombo, had 25,547 depositors against 23,958 in 1899. The amount deposited was Rs. 1,527,048 and the deposits held amounted to Rs. 4,187,949.

2. In the Post Office Savings Bank Rs. 772,324 was deposited, the total number of depositors standing at 51,887 with a holding of Rs. 1,257,293.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A) POLICE.

1. The strength of the force was 1,758, including officers, and cost Rs. 728,125.

2. Stations in connection with the camp for prisoners of war were established at Diyatalawa, Haputale, and Welimada at the cost of the Imperial Government.

3. No punitive police stations were established during the year, but temporary stations for the protection of cacao plantations were established at Yatawatta, Ukuwela, and Palkelele. Although the latter stations did useful work, the prevention of cacao stealing must always depend mainly on the selection of the watchers employed by estate owners.

4. Some alarm was caused in Colombo by a succession of burglaries accompanied in some cases by the use of a revolver. The miscreant was ultimately arrested and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment.

5. Reports of 17,703 true offences were recorded against 14,434 in 1899, and 12,990 convictions or committals were secured. Of this increase of 3,269 cases no less than 2,680 fall under the head "Other Offences," which includes breaches of Municipal and other by-laws, which, though transgressions, can hardly be regarded as crimes.

The increase in real crime is probably due to the increased price of rice and the decline of the plumbago industry, in which many of the criminal class found employment.

CEYLON,
1900.

6. The figures of true offences reported and convictions or committals obtained read as follows for the past five years :—

Year.			True offences.	Convictions or Committals.
1896	...	...	18,071	9,397
1897	...	...	20,800	13,023
1898	...	...	15,312	10,673
1899	...	...	14,434	10,173
1900	...	...	17,703	12,990

7. Murders and homicides totalled 146, against 125 in 1899, 127 in 1898, and 149 in 1897. Robberies rose from 269 in 1899 to 289, the figures for 1898 and 1897 being 312 and 498 respectively. Burglaries again increased seriously from 977 to 1,245, while the total for 1898 was but 638. Grievous hurt cases which fell from 500 in 1898 to 371 in 1899 again rose to 391. Thefts of prædial produce, too, rose from 885 to 1,119.

8. The convictions in the Superior Courts rose in proportion, the figures being :—

Year.			Supreme Court.	District Court.
1896	...	...	335	519
1897	...	...	449	706
1898	...	...	375	763
1899	...	...	279	452
1900	...	...	328	611

Of the 146 cases of murder and homicide 124 were committed for trial, of which 98 went to the Supreme Court. In 67 cases convictions were obtained, resulting in 36 persons being sentenced to the extreme penalty, which was carried out in 31 cases.

9. Many of the burglary cases are only so in name, the offence often consisting in breaking through the wall of a mud hut, probably more with the object of annoying the owner than

to obtain plunder. The percentage of convictions rose from 20 per cent. to 36·23 per cent.

Ceylon,
1900.

10. Under the Ordinance for the prevention of plague there were 196 prosecutions yielding 115 convictions.

11. There was an increase of crime in the Western, Central, North-Western, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces, and a decrease in the Northern, Southern, and Eastern Provinces, while the state of crime in Uva was normal, and the North-Central, as usual, had practically none to its debit.

(B) PRISONS.

1. The total admissions into jail (excluding road defaulters) was 6,000, against 6,158 in 1899, showing a decline of 1,227 as compared with 1891, when the population was 577,899 less.

2. The road defaulters sent to jail numbered only 260—a wonderfully small total for the Island,—and of these 260 only 142 served their sentences, 107 finding the money to pay the fine of Rs. 10, while one was discharged on account of an informal committal and ten were released on medical certificate.

3. Compared with the 3,505 admissions to jail of road defaulters in 1891 these figures offer a striking contrast, and it may be of interest to append the annexed table to show how the working of the Road Ordinance has improved in the last decade until it may be said to be almost automatic.

The admissions to prison of defaulters under the Road Ordinance were:—

Year.					No.
1891	...	...	...	...	3,505
1892	...	...	...	...	2,185
1893	...	...	...	...	1,127
1894	...	...	...	...	826
1895	...	...	...	...	744
1896	...	...	...	...	648
1897	...	...	...	...	500
1898	...	...	...	...	379
1899	...	...	...	...	329
1900	...	...	...	...	260

**CEYLON,
1900.**

4. Admissions on convictions before the Superior Courts numbered 939, against 731 in 1899 and 1,138 in 1898. Convictions for manslaughter again rose from 71 to 82. Thirty-one criminals were executed. These figures show a striking increase, the number sentenced to death being abnormally great, but it is difficult to explain the increase, where, as is the case in Ceylon, the primary motive for taking life is a sudden impulse of anger or revenge rather than cold-blooded calculation and intent.

5. The daily average of convicted prisoners fell from 2,360 to 2,231.

6. Only one prisoner succeeded in escaping, and he was re-captured.

7. The cost of maintaining each convicted prisoner was Rs. 189.50 per annum.

8. Deaths in prison rose to 111, the same number as in 1898.

9. Prison offences increased in number, but corporal punishment was resorted to in only 193 cases compared with 259 in 1899.

10. The daily sick rate rose from 130 in 1899 to 147, as compared with 161 in 1898.

(c) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

1. The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrate's Courts was 67,196, in which 70,616 persons were charged. Of these, 33,897 were acquitted, 34,863 convicted, and 1,856 committed for trial before a higher court.

2. Of 1,826 prisoners tried by the Superior Courts, 1,007 were convicted and 819 acquitted.

3. In murder cases 45 convictions were secured against 52 acquittals; the figures for culpable homicide showing 29 to 8.

4. The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts approximated to that of 1898, and was in excess of the number for 1899. The convictions in the Superior Courts increased, and the acquittals in the Minor Courts showed a considerable falling off.

5. Cattle-stealing cases, which afford ample scope for the ingenious but unscrupulous villager to get his neighbour into trouble, showed the usual striking results, no fewer than 2,057 out of 2,603 accused being summarily acquitted, while only 487 were convicted and 59 committed for trial.

6. The Gansabhawas, as usual, did a great deal of unobtrusive but useful work.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

CEYLON,
1900.

(A) POPULATION.

The estimated population of the Island on 31st December, 1900, was 3,612,303. 136,051 births were registered and 100,873 deaths. The birth-rate was 38·2 against 38·0, and the death-rate 28·3 against 30·2 per 1,000 in the previous year, calculated on the estimated population at the middle of the year. Both birth and death-rates show an improvement, and the estimated population exceeded that of 1899 by 123,000. The birth-rate varied from 36·2 per mille in Colombo to 52·7 in Mannaar, and the death-rate from 23·2 in Negombo to 44·3 in Mannaar.

(B) PUBLIC HEALTH.

1. The public health of the inhabitants of the Island was good. There was an absence of those widespread severe outbreaks of malarial fever which characterized the previous year, but cases of cholera and smallpox were numerous. The sanitary conditions throughout all the towns and villages of the Island are always being improved.

2. During the year cholera outbreaks were very general throughout the Island in the Western, Central, North-Western, Eastern, North-Central, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces, and in the province of Uva. The only Provinces which were free were the Northern and Southern. Cholera was prevalent throughout the cooly-recruiting districts of Southern India, and the outbreaks can in every instance be traced ultimately to them. The first case was reported in July on an estate in the Ramboda district of the Central Province, and outbreaks occurred soon afterwards in other parts of the Central Province and in the Province of Uva. There were 104 cholera centres up to the end of the year. The most severe outbreak occurred at Buttale in the Province of Uva.

3. There were 252 cases of smallpox, of which 52 proved fatal. Of these, 74 occurred in the Western Province and 141 in the Central Province.

4. Of leprosy 635 cases were reported, against 506 in 1899. The new cases reported were 210 against 208. The deaths numbered 43, the duration of the disease ranging from 2 to 26 years.

5. Of 3,646 cases of parangi treated in the hospitals only 9 proved fatal.

(C) SANITATION.

General Sanitary Condition of the Colony and the Chief Towns.

1. The general sanitary condition of the Island remains in much the same condition as last year. The same method of disposal of dust and night soil exists, and, though by no means

CEYLON,
1900.

satisfactory, is still far from bad when compared with other tropical countries. The water supply is often very good, and endeavours are made every year to remedy defects.

2. Colombo is growing rapidly, and steps are being taken to keep it in as sanitary a condition as possible.

Port sanitation is the first consideration, as the number of ships entering the port from all parts of the world is rapidly increasing, and the first line of defence to the town against disease is the sanitation of the port. This has been carried out in a most efficient manner during the year. In the town itself the streets have been made wider, so that air space is abundant.

3. It is satisfactory to note that this Island has for another year escaped the scourge of plague, although it has been present in many ports from which vessels come to Ceylon. This freedom may be put down to a combination of many causes: 1st, that Colombo is not a terminal port; 2nd, that vessels do not come alongside any pier; 3rd, that vessels and their crews coming from infected ports are thoroughly inspected before leaving; 4th, that the Plague Committee is fully alive to its greatest responsibilities; 5th, to the good work performed by the Port Surgeons; 6th, that the Island is prepared to meet it.

(D) CLIMATE.

(1) *Rainfall.*

The rainfall varied from 180·34 inches in 246 days at Ratnapura to 36·39 inches in 78 days at Mannaar.

(2) *Temperature.*

The mean temperature varied between 82·8° at Jaffna to 58·2° at Hakgala.

The mean daily variation of temperature was highest at Badulla (18·2°) and lowest at Galle (8·9°). The mean daily range at Colombo was 13·1° and at Kandy 16·7°.

(3) *Direction and Force of Wind.*

From November to February the wind blows from the north-east and from April to October from the south-west. The force of the movement of the wind varies very greatly between 18·2 miles and 335 miles per diem at Ratnapura and Nuwara Eliya respectively.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

Ceylon:
1900

1. An abnormal increase occurred in every department of money order business. The total number dealt with during the year was 356,218 of the value of Rs. 9,454,707, representing an increase over the previous year of 22 per cent. in number and 21 per cent. in amount.

2. The number of Indian telegraph money orders issued in Ceylon for payment in India was 22,277 of the value of Rs. 1,433,106, representing the enormous increase over the previous year of 55 per cent. in number and 51 per cent. in amount.

3. Service money orders issued free of commission to Government Departments during the year numbered 12,187, of the value of Rs. 648,140.

Postal Orders.

4. Postal Orders show a steady increase, but are not so popular as a means of remitting money as might be expected.

Savings Bank.

5. The year's transactions show a satisfactory increase over the previous year. The total number of depositors on the books at the end of the year was 51,887, and the amount to their credit was Rs. 1,257,293. 37,370 deposits, amounting to Rs. 772,324, and 14,534 withdrawals, amounting to Rs. 712,558, were made during the year.

6. An acknowledgment system of telegraphic money orders on India was introduced.

7. The transmission of money orders to Europe was accelerated by sending supplementary advice lists to London by the French and German steamers.

Telegraph extensions in 1900 were:—

From			Miles.
Jaffna to Anuradhapura	...	...	120
Vavuniya to Mullaattivu	...	...	59
Wattegama to Madulkele	...	...	10
Haldummulla to Balangoda	...	...	22
Colombo to Polgahawela	...	...	40

CEYLON,
1900.

Telephone Exchange.

8. The number of subscribers to the telephone exchange increased by one; the number of telephones in use in Colombo by nine. Four miles of posts and 13 miles of wire were added.

9. Three telegraph offices and four village receiving offices were opened.

10. An envelope bearing a 6-cent stamp was introduced.

IX.—MILITARY FORCE AND EXPENDITURE.

The annexed table shows the total expenditure during 1900 on account of military services, and includes two new items of Rs. 15,867 for the formation of Planters' Rifle Corps and Rs. 149,651 for the despatch of the Ceylon Contingent to South Africa:—

Military Expenditure by the Colony during 1900.	Amount		
	Rs.	c.	Rs. c.
Colonial Contribution for Regular Troops—			
Balance due for 1899 ...	42,672	95	
Expenditure on account 1900 ...	1,845,095	0	
For Volunteer Regiment, including Miscellaneous Stores.			1,887,767 95
Compensation in lieu of exemption from payment of Customs Duties on articles imported for the Troops.			134 437 85
Expenses on account Fortifications at Colombo (on account).			16,428 50
Amount paid to settle a loan to Volunteer Funds since 1892.			120,264 17
Cost of reserve ammunition (re-vote).			20,000 0
Passage money of discharged instructors.			17,392 69
Expenses on account of formation of Planters' Rifle Corps.			4,540 0
Expenses on account sending Contingent to South Africa.			15,867 62
			149,651 61
Total ...			2,366,850 39

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

CEYLON,
1900.

(1) IMPORTANT EVENTS.

1. The most important event of the year, one of the most important in the history of Ceylon, was the Colony's participation in the South African campaign. On the 24th December, 1899, the Secretary of State accepted the offer of the Governor to furnish a Contingent 125 strong. There was no lack of volunteers, and by the 10th January the required number had been secured. On the 2nd February the Contingent sailed for the Cape under the command of Major A. H. Rutherford, R.D.F.

2. The martial spirit aroused throughout the British Empire by the earlier incidents of the campaign was manifested in Ceylon, and a movement originated among the planting community for the formation of Rifle Corps. The Government showed its cordial approval by meeting the cost of constructing ranges and providing arms and ammunition. The scheme has proved most successful, and the strength of the Planters' Rifle Corps is now 489, distributed among 16 sections in Colombo and up-country.

3. Another important and exceptional event was the reception of 5,000 prisoners of war, who arrived in the Island during August and September. Under the head of Public Works will be found a short account of the elaborate arrangements made for the accommodation and comfort of the Colony's unwilling guests.

4. It is gratifying to record that the Island continued to enjoy immunity from plague, the precautions to combat which were in no way relaxed.

5. Good progress was made with the railway extensions and irrigation.

6. The Commission appointed to report on the Sanitation and Water Supply of Colombo submitted their report, and the Secretary of State has now sanctioned the following arrangement:—The Government to undertake the remaining duplication of the water main from Labugama, estimated to cost Rs. 2,000,000, on the condition that it is relieved from all further liability in respect of the water supply of Colombo; the Waterworks to be handed over to the Municipal Council, who will be invited to commute by a lump payment their annual net contribution to revenue of Rs. 100,000 on this account; the Government to raise for the Municipal Council a loan of Rs. 3,000,000 for the carrying out of a drainage scheme, charging the Municipal Council one-half per cent. interest in excess of that paid on the loan; the Government to pay the Municipal Council Rs. 65,000 per annum in commutation of rates on Government property for a term of seven years, when the arrangement will be revised. These terms are now the subject of negotiation between the Government and the Municipal Council.

Ceylon,
1900.

(2) PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure was Rs. 5,176,467 against Rs. 5,343,891 in 1899; personal emoluments rising from Rs. 455,961 to Rs. 462,262.

2. Annually Recurrent Works claimed Rs. 2,029,279 and Extraordinary Public Works accounted for Rs. 1,610,260. The total mileage of roads is 3,588, of which 2,305 are metalled, 260 track-metalled, 619 gravelled, and 403 natural roads. The cost of maintenance of metalled roads was Rs. 527 per mile against Rs. 490 in 1899, of gravelled roads Rs. 224, and of natural roads Rs. 61, showing an increase of Rs. 15 and Rs. 20 respectively.

3. On the completion of the duplication of the 20-inch water main from Hunupitiya to Wagga steps were taken to have it scraped, and the maximum discharging capacity was thus increased by 500,000 gallons per diem to 2,900,000 in 24 hours. The Waterworks at Nuwara Eliya were finally completed, and plans and sections were prepared for the sanitation of Kandy, while various schemes for the water supply of outstations were investigated.

4. The Plague Camp at Ragama absorbed Rs. 25,000 in repairs and improvements.

The Camp for Prisoners of War at Diyatalawa.

5. Instructions were received on the 2nd May to erect a camp for the reception of Boer prisoners at Diyatalawa. The site selected is situated on undulating ground below the railway station at Diyatalawa.

Accommodation was originally proposed to be provided for 2,500 prisoners; this was subsequently increased to 4,500.

The works included the erection of huts for prisoners with the necessary kitchens, bathing sheds and outbuildings, quarters for the staff with offices and stores, hospitals, the construction of a road and tramway and the necessary works for securing an adequate supply of water, and electric lighting.

The huts for the prisoners are 120 feet long and about 13 feet high, built of galvanized iron with substantial framing of rolled beams and provided with wooden floors. Contracts were let to the Colombo Commercial Co., Messrs. Walker, Sons & Co., and Messrs. Whittall & Co., for the erection of some of the huts, but the greater portion of the work was carried out at the Government Factory. The kitchens and outbuildings were of galvanized iron with concrete floors. The bathing sheds were erected of wattle and daub with concrete floors. The latrines are of the rail type on the bucket system, erected of galvanized iron with concrete floors. The buckets are removed by tram to the pitting ground situated about half-a-mile from the camp.

CEYLON,
1900.

The quarters and offices for the staff are of galvanized iron lined with wood and provided with wooden floors. The stores are of galvanized iron with concrete floors. The hospitals are of similar construction to the buildings occupied by the staff.

A metalled road has been constructed from the railway station to the camp. A light tramway has been laid from the store to the ration sheds and from the camp to the pitting ground.

The water is obtained from streams on the hill side flowing through the Roehampton and Kahagalla estates above the railway; upon these were constructed suitable intakes. Nearly eight miles of wrought iron piping have been laid, varying in size from $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch to three inches in diameter. A break of pressure tank was erected near the railway station and four covered service tanks, each having a capacity of 25,000 gallons, were constructed in close proximity to the camp.

The whole of the camp and staff buildings as well as some of the buildings occupied by the Military guard were lighted by electric light. This work was carried out by Messrs. Boustead Bros. of Colombo.

The whole of the camp is enclosed by a barbed wire fence nearly two miles in length.

Two hundred and fifty-nine buildings have been erected, having a floor area of 271,551 superficial feet. Upwards of 7,000 tons of material had to be transported to the site.

The camp was first occupied in August. The whole of the accommodation for 4,500 prisoners and staff, together with contingent works, was practically completed in October, or five months after receipt of notice that an encampment was required.

Camp for Prisoners of War at Ragama.

6. The site selected for the camp and staff quarters was that known as Plague Camps Nos. 2, 3, and 4; the buildings consisting of cadjan sheds in Camp No. 2; corrugated iron sheds with cadjan sides in Camps Nos. 3 and 4, those in Camp No. 4 having concreted floors.

The sheds in Camps Nos. 3 and 4 were sufficient for the accommodation of 300 prisoners, and only required the floors to be strengthened, roof to be covered with cadjans, and minor alterations to adapt them to the purpose required.

These two camps were surrounded by a barbed wire entanglement 3,600 feet in length, six feet in height. This fence was constructed of two lines of posts carrying horizontal wires and placed seven feet apart; between these wires were fixed both horizontally and diagonally.

The whole of the above buildings were of corrugated iron, the living rooms being provided with boarded floors and the walls lined with wood.

CEYLON,
1900.

The existing buildings in Plague Camp No. 2 were recad-janned and made suitable for occupation as quarters for police and servants and as stores.

Drains were constructed of brick and cement for the conveyance of fouled water.

An incinerator was erected in Camp No. 2 for the disposal of night soil.

An adequate supply of water is obtained from a well near the railway, the water being pumped up into iron tanks on high ground and distributed throughout the camp by wrought iron piping connected with standposts.

A new road has been constructed leading from the Colombo-Ragama road to the camp.

The necessary tables, forms, and shelving were provided and fitted up in the several huts and stores.

The lighting of the camp was provided for by oil lamps fixed on posts near the barbed wire enclosure, at distances of about 20 yards apart.

The work was commenced on the 26th November, 1900, and completed ready for occupation by the first week in January, under the immediate supervision of Mr. G. H. M. Hyde, Acting Factory Engineer, assisted by the District Engineers, Messrs. Jayawardene and Ludovici.

The approximate expenditure has been Rs. 50,000.

7. During the year 479 orders were received at the Government Factory, amounting to Rs. 494,352.30, which, added to Rs. 147,322.44 brought forward from 1899, makes a total of Rs. 641,674.74. To this sum a disbursement of Rs. 379,742.18 in connection with Camps Nos. 1, 2, and 3 for the South African prisoners of war at Diyatalawa and Rs. 12,060.66 for the two Camps at Ragama must be added.

The total amount available for expenditure in 1900 was as follows:—

—							Amount.
							Rs. c.
Camps for South African Prisoners of War Nos. 1, 2, and 3 at Diyatalawa.							379,742 18
Camps for Prisoners of War, Ragama							12,060 66
Factory Orders							494,352 30
Amount brought forward from 1899							147,322 44
Total							1,033,477 58

During the same period 106 iron bridges were constructed, Rs. 68,603 were expended on harbour improvements, Rs. 52,437 on the manufacture of tools, and Rs. 16,583 for other Departments. The Factory turned out 1,927 cwts. of castings for the Railway.

CEYLON,
1900.

8. The expenditure on Colombo Harbour was Rs. 2,000,186, made up as follows:—

	Amount.
	Ra.
Upkeep of South-West Breakwater and inner harbour dredging.	85,599
Harbour improvements, &c.	442,736
Harbour works extension... ..	1,471,851

The total expenditure on Harbour Extensions now amounts to Rs. 7,920,785, the grand total outlay since 1873, when the South-West Breakwater was commenced, being Rs. 22,261,831.

Good progress was made with the North-West Breakwater. The lower layer of rubble was extended 1,900 feet and 430 lineal feet of blockwork were completed.

In connection with the Graving Dock 74,473 cubic yards were excavated.

9. The Railway figures given below are satisfactory:—

	1900.	1899.	Increase. 1900.
	Ra.	Ra.	Ra.
Gross Receipts	8,272,851	7,658,887	613,464
Working Expenses	4,374,310	4,104,354	269,956
Profit	3,898,041	3,554,533	343,508

Only twice before in the history of the Railway have the receipts shown such a large increase, viz., in 1868, the year after the line was opened through to Kandy, when the earnings of the previous year were doubled, and again in 1895, when the increase over 1894 amounted to Rs. 678,651.

The camp for prisoners of war and their guard at Diyatalawa has largely contributed to the increase last year.

CEYLON,
1900.*Interest.*

The interest paid on loans amounted to Rs. 1,233,619.

Net Earnings.

After deducting the working expenses and the payment of interest, the net amount contributed by the Railway to the general revenue of the Colony amounted to Rs. 2,664,422, equivalent to a dividend of 4·6 per cent. on the total capital cost of Rs. 57,958,225.

There was no extension of mileage.

(3) IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

The Blue Book figures are very incomplete, but the Master Attendant gives the number of cooly immigrants and emigrants at 136,153, and 51,581 respectively. The total number of persons passing from Ceylon to India was 120,360, while 204,081 crossed from India to Ceylon.

(4) FUTURE PROSPECTS OF TRADE.

The steady rise in the value of the trade of the Colony, which now stands at Rs. 220,550,716, shows how the trade of the Island is growing. In 1850 the figures were £1,249,956.

(5) SUITABILITY OF CLIMATE FOR EUROPEANS.

The climate is well suited for Europeans, but under existing conditions manual labour is practically out of the question for the white man, who finds his avocation in sedentary pursuits or in the supervision of labour.

(6) RATES OF WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The rate of wages for prædial labourers varies from 25 to 50 cents per diem; 37½ cents is the general rate. Domestic servants earn from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 per mensem, the average wage being about Rs. 12. Trade employes earn from 50 cents to Rs. 1·50 a day. The cost of living varies greatly in different parts of the Island, being lowest in the Northern and Eastern Provinces and highest in Colombo, where house rent is a serious item to rich and poor. The ordinary villager can probably live in fair comfort for Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 a month.

The cost of living for a European is somewhat difficult to calculate, the purchasing power of the rupee being something midway between its nominal value of 2s. and gold value of 1s. 4d., if local and imported purchases are considered together.

(7) OPENINGS FOR INVESTMENT OF CAPITAL.

CEYLON,
1900.

The plumbago industry is experiencing a period of stagnation, and tea planting does not secure the profits which it once did, but cocoanut cultivation continues to thrive, and minor products, such as cacao, cardamoms, &c., are profitable.

SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

There is little to add to what has been yearly noted on this subject. The Ceylon native has a very good time of it indeed generally, and as regards taxation is extremely fortunate in the small demands made on his income. Whether it may not be necessary in the near future to teach him the virtue of self-help by insisting on local contributions towards the ever-growing demands of the Medical and Educational Departments is a question which must shortly engage serious attention. The method of imposing and recovering a local cess for these objects, so that the incidence of the tax may be evenly distributed and press unduly on no one, has yet to be decided upon, and many points will have to be considered; but a solution of the problem will no doubt be found, and the delegation to Village Committees of the power to recover the cess will be another step towards teaching the rudiments of local government.

(9) GENERAL CONDITION OF THE COLONY.

The last year of the century was the most prosperous in the history of the Island, and was marked by affluence and progress.

J. J. THORBURN,

Principal Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Colombo,

September 1, 1901.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1901.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 367.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1901.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 341.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 82, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Od. 788-37.] *Price 3d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
343	Basutoland	1900-1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	1900
346	Northern Nigeria	1900-1901
347	British Solomon Islands	1900
348	Lagos	1900-1901
349	British Guiana	1900
350	St. Vincent	1900-1901
351	Jamaica	1901
352	Cocos Islands	1900
353	Southern Nigeria... ..	1901
354	Bermuda	1901
355	Gambia	"
356	Falkland Islands	"
357	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
358	Malta	"
359	Gibraltar	"
360	Straits Settlements	"
361	Sierra Leone	"
362	British Honduras	"
363	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
364	Seychelles	1901-1902
365	Bahamas	1901
367	Fiji... ..	

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
20	Wei Hai Wei... ..	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.

CEYLON, 1901.

No. 367.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1900, see No. 341.)

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IM THURN to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Queen's House, Colombo,

Ceylon, 21st August, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copies of the Ceylon Blue Book for the year 1901, together with copies of the usual Report prepared in the Colonial Secretary's office.

I have, &c.,

EVERARD IM THURN.

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1901.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The revenue of 1900, which amounted to Rs. 27,325,930, exceeded the estimate by Rs. 2,205,930. The revenue of 1901 was estimated to yield Rs. 26,320,000, and actually amounted to Rs. 26,437,102, showing an increase over the estimate of Rs. 117,102, but a decrease of Rs. 888,828 as compared with the actual revenue of the preceding year.

12610*—75—9/1902 Wt 28616 D & S—5

A 2

2. The comparative statement of the revenue of 1900 and 1901 shows :—

	Revenue of 1900.		Revenue of 1901.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1. Customs	7,228,293	34	7,010,187	88	134,061	10	352,166	56
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Lighthouse Dues...	1,319,377	79	1,331,217	76	21,328	24	9,488	27
3. Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	5,796,008	85	5,858,955	1	116,991	46	54,045	30
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in Aid.	1,723,488	62	1,745,241	87	72,284	52	50,531	27
5. Post and Telegraphs	996,802	86	980,973	92	47,485	95	63,314	89
6. Government Railways	8,239,679	9	7,967,692	14	—	—	271,986	95
7. Rent of Government Property	102,900	49	114,548	27	11,647	78	—	—
8. Interest	486,450	54	426,355	68	8,833	49	68,928	35
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	203,188	97	78,597	82	11,575	96	142,167	11
10. Sale of Government Property	404,944	18	366,055	12	2,388	94	41,278	0
11. Land Sales	818,795	83	557,276	91	—	—	261,518	92
Total	27,325,930	56	26,437,102	38	426,597	44	1,315,425	62
Deduct Decrease ...					1,315,425 62			
Nett Decrease ...					888,828 18			

3. The decreases appear under Customs, Post and Telegraphs, Government Railways, Interest, Miscellaneous, Sale of Government Property, and Land Sales; and the increases under Port and Harbour Dues, Licenses, Fees of Court, Rent of Government Property.

4. Under Customs the imports of grain, cotton, sugar, and other goods declined, while imports of spirits and sugar increased. Exports of plumbago recovered slightly; but hides and horns, arrack, and chanks fell off. Recoveries on account of harbour dues were smaller. Salt yielded a larger and arrack a smaller return. Judicial stamps to the value of Rs. 46,894 were sold in excess of the sales of 1900, while warehouse rent and sundries contributed Rs. 8,576 and Rs. 25,526.39, respectively, to the increase; on the other hand, Rs. 43,705 and Rs. 19,609 of the deficit are attributable to commission on money orders and parcel post collections. Government Railways showed a loss under each sub-head, accounted for by a shrinkage in the goods traffic and a decrease in the number of third class passengers and coolies. Profit on new coins, which contributed no less than Rs. 126,512 to revenue in 1900, does not appear in the returns for 1901. Diminished sales of timber cut down profits by Rs. 38,187, and a shrinkage in land sales was registered by a falling off of Rs. 237,538, while the depression in the plumbago market was betrayed by a fall of Rs. 23,980 under Premises on Leases.

Expenditure.

5. The expenditure of 1901, which totalled Rs. 29,216,746, including Rs. 3,170,000 from surplus revenue on account of Railway Construction and Rs. 150,152 for Irrigation, exceeded the expenditure of the preceding year by Rs. 267,819.

6. New Pensions accounted for Rs. 41,526 of the additional expenditure; Provincial Administration cost Rs. 74,181 more than in 1900; special requirements of the Port of Colombo were satisfied at an enhanced cost of Rs. 50,926. The Supreme Court, Fiscals, and Prisons required increased provision. The largest claimants for extra expenditure were the Railway (Rs. 359,426), Hospitals (Rs. 101,412), Education (Rs. 87,863), and Military Expenditure (Rs. 81,313). Rs. 14,518 were saved under Registration, owing to payments on account of the Census being dealt with by the Treasurer. Owing to smaller expenditure on currency notes the Treasurer's vote "Miscellaneous" was saved Rs. 188,298. Forests and Post Office effected economies of Rs. 54,724 and Rs. 46,122, respectively. A re-classification of the Irrigation Department expenditure saved the Public Works Department Rs. 52,899, and on Public Works, both Recurrent and Extraordinary, less money was expended during the year.

7. The comparative statement of expenditure for 1900 and 1901 is as follows:—

Heads of Services.		1900.		1901.		Increase.		Decrease.	
		Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1.	Charges on account of Public Debt	2,802,422	41	2,805,029	84	—	—	—	—
2.	Pensions	1,149,877	71	1,191,404	33	41,526	62	—	—
3.	His Excellency the Governor	125,031	78	127,838	44	2,806	66	—	—
3a.	Civil Service	661,511	68	652,717	11	—	—	8,794	57
4.	Secretariat	249,328	16	263,289	14	13,960	98	—	—
5.	Audit Office	49,160	75	49,085	33	—	—	—	—
6.	Treasury	40,086	85	41,563	59	—	—	75	42
7.	Provincial Administration	884,030	60	958,212	40	1,476	74	—	—
8.	Survey Department	638,314	52	652,561	31	14,246	79	—	—
9.	Customs Department	127,016	85	129,309	68	2,292	83	—	—
10.	Port and Marine Department, Colombo	319,218	42	370,144	95	50,926	53	—	—
11.	Port and Marine Department other than Colombo	34,212	78	38,575	30	4,362	52	—	—
12.	Botanic Gardens...	70,678	59	71,198	60	520	1	—	—
13.	Colombo Museum	25,851	99	23,108	67	—	—	2,743	32
14.	Legal Departments:—								
	Supreme Court	128,488	61	154,778	92	26,290	31	—	—
	Attorney-General	60,432	34	60,917	15	484	81	—	—
	Solicitor-General	12,043	87	12,147	99	104	12	—	—
	District Courts	160,389	52	164,071	82	3,682	30	—	—
	Courts of Requests and Police Courts	124,531	73	124,936	24	403	51	—	—
	Registration of Lands	77,461	89	78,385	24	923	35	—	—
	Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths	129,413	94	114,895	13	—	—	14,518	81
	Fiscals	208,309	92	238,416	37	30,106	45	—	—
	Loan Board	5,434	13	4,416	25	—	—	1,017	88

15. Police	...	...	...	...	...	721,511	37	716,423	77	—	22,207	60	5,087	60
16. Prisons	...	...	...	...	...	485,204	26	507,411	86	—	10,335	3	—	—
17. Medical Department	...	...	...	...	...	367,432	69	377,767	72	—	101,412	16	—	—
18. Hospitals and Dispensaries	...	...	...	...	...	1,209,980	99	1,311,393	15	—	23	26	—	—
19. Ecclesiastical	...	...	...	...	...	45,690	86	45,714	12	—	87,863	42	—	—
20. Education	...	...	...	...	...	820,133	87	907,997	29	—	—	—	820	84
21. Transport...	...	...	...	...	...	14,708	31	13,887	47	—	—	—	359	85
22. Exchange...	...	...	...	...	...	227,989	88	227,630	3	—	—	—	—	—
23. Military Expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	2,366,350	39	2,447,664	29	—	81,313	90	188,298	40
24. Miscellaneous Services	...	...	...	...	...	1,136,096	51	947,798	11	—	—	—	6,769	6
25. Government Stores	...	...	...	...	...	85,961	2	79,191	96	—	—	—	—	—
26. Crown Agents, London	...	...	...	...	...	2,033	66	2,719	2	—	685	36	—	—
27. Forests	...	...	...	...	...	341,313	79	286,589	69	—	—	—	54,724	10
28. Post Office and Telegraphs	...	...	...	...	...	1,098,798	17	1,052,676	6	—	—	—	46,122	11
29. Railway Department	...	...	...	...	...	4,366,298	45	4,725,724	59	—	359,426	14	—	—
30a. Public Works Department	...	...	...	...	...	455,332	49	402,433	37	—	—	—	52,899	12
30b. Irrigation Department	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	203,737	8	—	203,737	8	—	—
31. Public Works Annually Recurrent	...	...	...	...	...	1,896,243	19	1,839,690	26	—	—	—	56,552	93
32. Public Works Extraordinary	...	...	...	...	...	1,597,659	6	1,473,142	3	—	—	—	124,517	3
Total from Current Revenue										...	1,137,907	71	563,301	4
29. Railway Construction (from Surplus Funds	...	...	...	...	...	25,321,988	0	25,896,594	67	—	—	—	456,939	17
Estimates).	...	...	...	...	...	3,626,939	17	3,170,000	0	—	—	—	—	—
30b. Irrigation Department	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	150,152	15	150,152	15	15	—	—
Grand Total										...	1,288,059	86	1,020,240	21
Deduct Decrease										...	1,020,240	21	—	—
Nett Increase...										...	267,819	65	—	—

8. In the annexed table the total revenue and expenditure for the last five years is given :—

—		1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Revenue ... ..	...	Ra. c. 24,006,521 83½	Ra. c. 25,138,669 26	Ra. c. 25,913,141 58½	Ra. c. 27,325,930 56
Expenditure (ordinary) ... ..	...	21,634,377 94	22,843,851 89	24,950,940 36	25,321,988 0°
Expenditure from Surplus Funds ... ..	...	5,092 64	1,668 88	1,519 81	3,626,939 17†

* This includes Ra. 504,024·81 on account of Irrigation Works under the "New Policy."
† This represents the expenditure on account of Railway Construction Works under the "New Policy."
‡ Includes Ra. 203,737·08 on account of Irrigation Works under the "New Policy."
§ Represents the expenditure on account of Railway Construction Works (Ra. 3,170,000) and Irrigation (Ra. 150,152·15) under the "New Policy."

(B.) IMPORTANT CHANGES IN TAXATION.

No such changes are to be recorded.

(C.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

On 1st January, 1901, the total assets were Rs. 24,972,692, against Rs. 20,756,099 on 1st January, 1900. The liabilities amounted to Rs. 23,075,437, showing an excess of assets over liabilities to the extent of Rs. 1,897,255. From this credit balance must be deducted Rs. 177,130, recoverable arrears of revenue outstanding, which reduces the surplus revenue on 1st January, 1902, to Rs. 1,720,125. Against this surplus, Rs. 1,900,000 has been voted for Irrigation and Railway Extension in 1902, and it will accordingly be necessary to restrict an expenditure on these services during 1902 by the difference—Rs. 179,875.

(D) PUBLIC DEBT, SHOWING PROVISION FOR PAYMENT.

The balance due by the Colony on sterling debts raised in London stood on 31st December, 1901, at £3,391,844 3s. 5d., against £3,419,451 1s. 5d. on the same date in 1900. The balance on the local silver debt was Rs. 3,225,366.65, as compared with Rs. 3,253,191.72 at the close of the preceding year.

(E) CURRENCY.

Legal tender currency consists of gold, of Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 1,000, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 10, and Rs. 5, the Indian rupee, with a subsidiary silver coinage of 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces, and a copper coinage of 5-cent, 1-cent, $\frac{1}{2}$ -cent, and $\frac{1}{4}$ -cent pieces.

About half the face value of the paper issued is held in specie by the Currency Commissioners, the balance being invested in Indian Government Paper and other approved securities:—

—	Value.	
<i>Circulation.</i> Currency notes in circulation on December 31st, 1901.	—	Rs. 13,213,950 0

Currency—cont.

—	Value.			
	In Silver.		In Securities.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
<i>Reserve.</i>				
By silver in the vault	4,586,609	54	—	
By gold in the vault... ..	1,612,500	0	—	
By investments made by the Crown Agents	—		3,507,486	2
By investments made in Indian Government Paper.	—		3,507,354	44
	6,199,109	54	7,014,840	46
Total	Rs. 13,213,950			

Under Ordinance No. 13 of 1901 the specie reserve may be held in gold as well as silver. The Currency Commissioners are bound to issue notes for either gold or silver, but may redeem notes either in gold or rupees as they may consider fit.

The Mercantile Bank of India, Limited, the Bank of Madras, the National Bank of India, Limited, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China do business in the Colony.

(F.) COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1901.

Name of Municipality.		Revenue or Expenditure.		1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Colombo	Ra. c. 834,546 17	Ra. c. 922,189 17	Ra. c. 1,088,519 50	Ra. c. 1,152,137 58	Ra. c. 1,230,005 20
				798,423 1	837,809 72	927,229 89	902,408 5	1,306,278 56
Kandy	125,414 90	131,379 34	141,436 42	181,946 94	181,107 91
				119,217 71	166,774 19	150,032 87	183,671 31	186,728 3
Galle	71,080 0	80,797 16	90,787 38	109,566 51	86,222 74
				79,321 69	83,164 72	84,439 26	87,629 69	94,009 28

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE LOCAL BOARDS AND
BOARD OF IMPROVEMENT OF THE ISLAND FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1901.

Name of Local Board.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
WESTERN PROVINCE.						
Negombo	{ Revenue ... Expenditure ... }	Ra. c. 23,647 59 21,071 12	Ra. c. 25,852 32 26,963 71	Ra. c. 20,493 60 28,716 97	Ra. c. 27,485 8 24,330 84	Ra. c. 23,693 93 26,996 59
Kalutara	{ Revenue ... Expenditure ... }	13,182 53 15,807 61	19,587 80 13,192 40	34,796 69 31,358 0	14,290 38 17,429 54	19,784 47 19,592 77
Minuwangoda	{ Revenue ... Expenditure ... }	—	—	{ 1,683 48 1,092 78 }	2,397 37 1,557 90	2,838 51 2,913 31
CENTRAL PROVINCE.						
Matale	{ Revenue ... Expenditure ... }	8,065 76 8,832 35	8,275 37 7,425 8	9,827 51 8,470 65	10,430 95 16,545 28	10,481 85 10,506 5
Gampola	{ Revenue ... Expenditure ... }	8,704 65 8,490 36	4,743 51 4,189 22	9,262 42 11,347 65	6,954 47 7,107 84	11,657 5 10,871 76
Nawalapitiya	{ Revenue ... Expenditure ... }	4,323 81 2,148 88	7,107 66 4,822 94	8,370 34 9,631 12	13,447 25 14,632 89	13,036 72 10,464 73
Nuwara Eliya	{ Revenue ... Expenditure ... }	20,543 94 19,125 28	22,486 6 20,472 68	24,253 99 21,011 86	33,363 98 26,914 9	34,260 89 33,897 5

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.	Kurunegala	...	...	{ Revenue ... { Expenditure	...	...	21,226 98 17,424 27	16,007 82 19,275 19	24 470 71 19,512 82	22,765 98 30,166 20	24,312 97 21,741 2
Puttalam	...	...	...	{ Revenue ... { Expenditure	...	...	9,212 54 10,047 90	11,275 44 11,889 88	12,773 44 14,789 98	11,946 1 10,867 77	12,503 32 13,791 80
Chilaw	...	...	...	{ Revenue ... { Expenditure	...	...	8,333 22 8,620 87	9,533 91 10,146 65	11,434 88 9,339 77	15,567 92 16,188 76	30,864 69 30,544 64
PROVINCE OF UVA.											
Badulla	...	...	...	{ Revenue ... { Expenditure	...	...	13,559 77 13,256 26	14,466 86 12,025 46	13,019 4 14,821 45	13,741 91 13,365 26	14,357 52 12,395 53
PROVINCE OF SABARAGAMUWA.											
Ratnapura	...	...	...	{ Revenue ... { Expenditure	...	...	8,205 99 7,172 48	9,406 29 8,275 26	9,229 99 7,596 48	9,370 59 8,813 62	11,719 78 10,664 82
Kegalla	...	...	...	{ Revenue ... { Expenditure	...	...	3,787 67 3,505 55	3,574 74 4,498 86	5,383 66 4,093 79	4,679 90 4,812 18	5,961 74 4,173 33
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE.											
Anuradhapura	...	...	...	{ Revenue ... { Expenditure	...	...	—	—	—	—	{ 5,705 72 5,216 72
SOUTHERN PROVINCE.											
Matara	...	...	...	{ Revenue ... { Expenditure	...	...	13,559 77 13,256 26	14,466 86 12,025 46	13,508 44 15,692 54	19,233 29 15,028 23	17,557 19 17,517 3
EASTERN PROVINCE.											
Batticaloa	...	...	...	{ Revenue ... { Expenditure	...	...	14,315 32 13,960 15	17,124 88 16,865 4	17,326 82 16,610 99	17,190 37 16,981 59	13,406 13 12,727 71
Trincomalee	...	...	...	{ Revenue ... { Expenditure	...	...	13,355 48 15,325 89	13,184 15 12,754 96	15,775 69 13,772 61	13,423 97 15,575 56	13,172 59 13,081 45

(G.) STATEMENT OF DEBTS OF MUNICIPALITIES UP TO END OF 1901, SHOWING
PROVISION FOR PAYMENT.

Name of Municipality.		Amount of Debt outstanding.	On what account.	Provision for Payment.
Colombo	...	Rs. 10,000 0	For creation of the Health Department.	Rs. 10,000 is provided in the Budget for 1902.
	...	188,833 24	Waterworks construction	
Kandy	...	97,310 11	Lands over Reservoir	Water-rate at 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality, by Ordinances Nos. 18 and 29 of 1884.
	...	28,000 0	To widen Victoria Drive and clear lake silt.	Bond assigning portion of water-rate as authorised by Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	...	15,670 29	For repairing main sewer and constructing new drains.	Bond assigning proportion of rates and taxes under sections 127 (a) and (b), 128, 129, and 130 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	...	60,944 70	Construction of waterworks	Do. do.
Galle	...	40,361 29	For sanitary improvement	Water-rate of 7 per cent. levied within the Fort of Galle from July 1, 1897, reduced to 5 per cent. from July 1, 1899 (Ordinances Nos. 1 of 1890 and 18 of 1891).
	...			Mortgage of stamp fees on license carts, boats, and coaches; fees and stamp duties under Licensing Ordinance, 1873, and Ordinance No. 23 of 1877, Ordinance No. 7 of 1887, section 263.

STATEMENT OF DEBTS OF LOCAL BOARDS AT THE END OF 1901, WITH PROVISION FOR PAYMENT.

Name of Board.	Amount of Loan (Balance).	On what Account.	Provision for Repayment.
	Rs. c.		
	5,562 88	For construction of a public market.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 6,784.
	13,072 0	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 15,200.
Badulla	3,520 0	Do.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 4,000.
	2,300 0	Do.	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 2,500.
	200 0	For improvement of drainage ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 20 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 1,000.
Puttalam	5,740 0	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 7,000.
Chilaw	10,000 0	For reclaiming marshy land adjoining Chilaw River.	Repayable in ten annual instalments from Local Board revenue.
Ratnapura	2,291 65	For waterworks	Repayable from Local Board revenue at the rate of Rs. 458 33 per annum.
Negombo	8,666 70	For the construction of a bridge...	To be repaid from Local Board revenue in seven-teen years.

Statement of Debts of Local Boards at the end of 1901, with Provision for Payment—continued.

Name of Board.	Amount of Loan. (Balance).	On what Account.	Provision for Repayment.
	Ra. c		
Nuwara Eliya ...	12,040 0	For construction of market ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 1 per cent. on the original loan.
	3,000 0	Additional loan for market construction.	Repayable in ten years from Local Board revenue.
	76,695 6	For waterworks ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan.
	8,730 0	For construction of library and reading room.	Repayable at the rate of 1 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 9,000.
	10,000 0	Improvement of the park ...	Repayable by a sinking fund at the rate of 10 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 10,000.
Batticaloa ...	3,000 0	Loan for the completion of the model dwellings	Repayable by a sinking fund at the rate of 10 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 3,000
	14,400 0	For construction of market ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. on the original loan of Rs. 20,000.
	260 0	For opening the general cemetery	Repayable from Local Board Revenue in seven years.
	6,200 0	For construction of market ...	Repayable from Local Board revenue.
	2,550 0	For drainage of the town...	Repayable from Local Board revenue in ten years.
Trincomalee ...	2,610 0	For improvement of the Fishers' quarters.	Repayable from Local Board revenue in fifty years.
Matale ...	3,600 0	For construction of market ...	
Nawalapitiya ...	12,771 19	For water supply ...	Repayable from Local Board Revenue by a sinking fund at the rate of 2 per cent. half-yearly.
	9,290 41	For drainage of the town...	Do. do.
			Do. do.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

1. The annual value of the trade of the Colony for the last five years was:—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.		Total.	
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
1897	85,730,156	92	83,229,303	45	168,959,460	37
1898	87,525,034	97	93,801,890	13	181,326,925	10
1899	101,542,220	61	111,405,649	99	213,007,870	60
1900	114,544,256	41	106,006,460	55	220,550,716	96
1901	104,050,036	12	100,182,170	0	204,232,206	12

Imports.

2. The value of the imports for the year 1901, including specie (Rs. 8,576,890), was Rs. 112,626,926.12.

3. The value of imports and specie imported into each Province during 1901 was:—

—				Value.			
<i>Imports.</i>				Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Western Province	...	...	...	94,374,512	6	104,050,036	12
Northern Province	...	...	...	3,848,570	64		
Southern Province	...	...	...	4,616,427	94		
Eastern Province...	...	...	...	1,210,525	48		
<i>Specie.</i>							
Western Province	...	...	...	...	...	8,576,890	0
Total	...	...	...	...	...	112,626,926	12

4. Comparing the imports of 1901 with 1900, the duty on arms and ammunition has risen from Rs. 70,546.55 to Rs. 75,152.34, an increase of Rs. 4,605.79.

Cotton, manufactured and raw, shows a total value of Rs. 6,327,293.48 against Rs. 8,208,817.56, and duty of Rs. 248,629.20 against Rs. 305,073.62.

Chemicals, dye-stuffs, and tanning substances show an increase of Rs. 165.07 in duty.

Cement (exclusive of the quantity imported as Government stores) shows a decrease in value of Rs. 112,356.40 and in quantity of 1,113 tons. The quantity imported as Government stores was valued at Rs. 429,634.06, against Rs. 211,354.89 in 1900.

Coal, Coke and Patent Fuel.—The quantity imported was 627,728 tons, against 590,099 tons in 1900, an increase of 37,629 tons, British India contributing principally to the increase. Colombo imported 16,871 tons of coal more than in 1900, while the increase in Galle was 12,849 tons.

Kerosine oil shows an increase of 369,821 gallons on the quantity imported, of 437,623 gallons on the quantity entered for home consumption, of Rs. 231,137.88 in value, and Rs. 109,404.95 in duty.

Food-stuffs, biscuits, beef and pork, fish, and provisions unenumerated show a decrease in both value and duty; butter and curry stuffs an increase in value and duty; cheese, flour, potatoes, ham and bacon, and ghee show a decrease in value, but an increase in duty. The apparent falling off in the value of certain articles is due to a change in the calculation of values. The actual value has been taken this year, while for many years past a fixed—and now excessive—value was given.

Grain.—The quantity of grain cleared for home consumption was 8,951,650 bushels, against 9,592,323 bushels, the duty recovered amounting to Rs. 2,908,111.77, that on rice alone being Rs. 2,597,723.74.

There is an increase in the value of live-stock imported of Rs. 233,617. The number of cattle rose from 26,539 to 29,093, of sheep from 96,330 to 111,733. The number of horses imported fell from 534 to 453.

Metals and metalware show a decrease in value of Rs. 2,040,435.20. The decrease is due principally to a falling off in imports and partly to a difference in the method of calculating the value.

Manures of all kinds.—There is a decrease in quantity of 6,082 tons, and in value of Rs. 565,748.70.

Oils (excluding kerosine oil) show an increase in value of Rs. 197,583.29, and a decrease in duty of Rs. 1,953.91.

Opium shows a decrease in the quantity imported of 2,748 lbs.

Poonac shows a decrease in quantity of 10,681 cwt.

Spices show a decrease in value of Rs. 5,039.38, and in duty of Rs. 413.

Spirits of all kinds show a decrease in value of Rs. 421,349.80, and an increase in duty of Rs. 24,478.62. The quantity entered for home consumption was 176,615 gallons, against 171,045 gallons in the previous year. The value of all spirits in 1901 is taken as declared by the importers, while in previous years the lowest rate at which the value was calculated was Rs. 6 a gallon. The apparent fall in value is due therefore to the correction of an anachronism and to no falling off in the trade.

Sugar shows a decrease in quantity of 12,428 cwt. and in duty of Rs. 34,029.49.

The imports of specie show an increase of Rs. 781,388, the increase being mainly in gold.

Silk manufactures of all kinds show a decrease in value of Rs. 374,480.06 and in duty of Rs. 15,112.23.

Tobacco shows a decrease in quantity of 10,361 lb., and cigars an increase of 12,110 lb.

Woollen manufactures give an increase in value of Rs. 276,897.18 and in duty of Rs. 13,070.68.

Wines of all kinds show a decrease of Rs. 109,298.71 in value, due to a change in the calculation of values, and of Rs. 3,077.19 in duty, the total quantity entered for home consumption being 57,007 gallons, against 60,863 gallons in 1900.

Exports.

1. In 1901 the value of exports amounted to Rs. 102,840,348, distributed as follows:—

Exports.			Value.	
			Rs.	c.
Ceylon produce	...	...	85,977,410	0
Imports re-exported	...	...	1,273,700	0
Specie	...	...	2,658,178	0
Coal for use of steamers	...	...	12,931,060	0
Total	...	...	102,840,348	0

2. Compared with 1900, Ceylon produce shows a decrease of Rs. 4,891,122, mainly attributable to the smaller shipments of tea, the valuation of which has also declined from 36 cents a pound to 33 cents in the year under review. Imports re-exported, however, show an increase of Rs. 99,752, value of coal exported for the use of steamers shows a decrease of Rs. 1,032,920, and the exports of specie of Rs. 261,618.

3. The value of exports to the United Kingdom fell from Rs. 56,295,524 in 1900 to Rs. 50,158,739. Exports to British Colonies rose from Rs. 18,086,705 in 1900 to Rs. 18,994,800, and those to Foreign Countries from Rs. 20,580,046 to Rs. 20,755,749. The exports of tea to Russia (Asiatic and European) rose by 842,386 lb., but that to the United Kingdom shows a decrease of 249,412 lb. The value of exports to Russia (Asiatic and European) of Ceylon produce fell from Rs. 4,282,500 to Rs. 4,069,415, and to the United States of America from Rs. 6,602,935 to Rs. 5,458,167. The fall in the value of exports to the latter is attributable chiefly to cocoanut oil, which shows a reduction from 66,102 cwt., value Rs. 941,960, to 27,122 cwt., value Rs. 434,766 in 1901.

4. In the staple articles of export, cardamoms show a decrease of 232 cwt. and cinnamon of 1,405 cwt. Coir yarn, fibre, and rope exported from the principal ports (Colombo and Galle) has increased by 1,084 cwt.; copperah exported from Colombo and Galle also shows an increase of 52,019 cwt. The exports of citronella oil have decreased by 1,920,797 oz. Of tea, the quantity exported fell from 149,264,602 lb. in 1900 to 144,275,608 lb. Of plumbago, 446,960 cwt. were exported in 1901 as against 391,699 cwt.; but there was a fall in value from Rs. 500 in 1900 to Rs. 430 per ton.

(B) MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

1. The plumbago industry still suffered from depression during the year. The number of mines working in the North-Western Province fell from 50 to 23. Owing to low prices the production of only the highest class of plumbago proved remunerative. There is, however, reason to believe that the introduction of improved plant would enable many of the mines which are now idle to be worked at a profit, and in some cases steam pumps have been used with good results. In the Southern, Central, and Western Provinces the depression in the plumbago trade was also felt, and the value of land fell in sympathy.

2. In Ratnapura the number of gem pits continued to increase and totalled 416, an increase of 12. It is difficult to frame any estimate as to the value of the gems obtained.

3. The chief manufactures include cloth-weaving, jaggery, oil of various sorts, copperah, coir, bricks, tiles, mats, baskets, tobacco, jewellery, carpentry, &c.

4. The manufacture of salt is a Government monopoly, and yields a substantial revenue.

5. The fisheries of Ceylon are an important industry in the maritime districts. A steam trawler has recently been worked near Colombo with excellent results, but somewhat to the annoyance of the local fishermen, who fear the depletion of their fishing ground, although the trawler taps a deep sea supply hitherto untouched. The Northern Province fisheries gave employment to over 6,000 people, and the value of the produce is estimated at over 2 million rupees.

6. Professor Herdman has now fully investigated the pearl oyster banks, and his report is favourable, showing that no disease exists, and that under careful supervision the prospects of the pearl fishery are good and that the banks will probably be ready to be fished in 1903.

(C) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

1. The chief agricultural products are paddy, tea, cocoanuts, cacao, tobacco, and spices.

2. The export of tea seems at last to be reaching its maximum, and shows a slight decrease on the figures of 1900, viz., 145,188,244 lb., against 148,431,639 lb. Part of the decrease is, however, made up by the export of 1,110,774 lb. of green tea, most of which went to America. The export to Russia and Australia has increased, that of black tea to America decreased, but the decrease is more than made up by the green tea. The year has been one of depression, but prospects of the industry are more favourable, the export to England having been 8 million lb. less, and the stock of Ceylon tea there having been considerably reduced. The average price is the lowest as yet recorded, 6'86*d.*, against 7'20*d.* in 1900, but towards the end of the year prices were considerably improved. The industry has not suffered from any very serious outbreaks of disease, and planting has not extended. The remarks made last year on the general prospects of tea in Ceylon continue to hold.

3. Coffee exports show a further fall from 10,777 to 9,722 cwt.

4. Cacao exports show a very large increase on the figures for 1900, being 49,459 cwt. against 33,476. This, as was foretold in last report, is due to some extent to the lateness of the crop of last year, some of which is credited to 1901, but it is also largely due to the energetic measures being taken in combating the canker, and especially in reducing the number of diseased pods, the quantity of "black cacao" having been reduced in some instances by 75 per cent. The prices obtained for cacao, even the best qualities, have been much below those of last year; this is perhaps more due to the conditions of the home market than to any difference in quality of the product, but the increasing proportion of *Forastero* kinds may have something to do with it. The canker has, as a rule, been seriously attacked on approved methods, and a marked decrease in the number of diseased trees is apparent.

5. Indiarubber has continued to extend as a cultivation in suitable districts, and samples from several estates have been prepared on lines similar to those worked out by Mr. Parkin in the Peradeniya laboratory. These have obtained very good prices on the home markets, considerably higher than the best South American rubber, and an export is now steadily going on, 66 cwt. having been exported in 1901.

6. The experiments on yield and distillation of camphor have been completed and results published, showing a prospect of a remunerative industry being established. Many planters in the hills have started small plots of this plant during the year.

7. Experiments with citronella oil have been continued, and it is hoped that it may yet be possible to save this industry from the great depression which has overtaken it, mainly owing to over-production and adulteration.

8. The planting of good kinds of cinchona continues to spread, and it is quite possible that this may once again become an industry of importance, though not a staple.

9. Coca, the source of cocaine, introduced some years by the Botanical Department, is now a regular item in our exports, and very good prices are being obtained for Ceylon leaves on the home market.

10. The cultivation of fruit trees continues to extend, but on a small scale only, and there are no signs of cultivation for export being anywhere commenced.

11. The export of cocoanut oil rose from 443,959 cwt. in 1900 to 453,531 in 1901, and that of copperah from 362,467 to 439,865 cwt. At the same time there has been a considerable rise in the market value of both these articles, due to short crops in other countries.

12. The export of citronella oil has also increased from 1,409,058 lb. to 1,430,168 lb., but has not reached the figures of 1899. The industry is in a very depressed state, owing to over-production and adulteration, the latter being so bad that even good local oils do not obtain the value that is really due to them. Prices have reached a very low ebb, $9\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $10d.$ per lb., and land is going out of cultivation in the grass. On the other hand, the new Java oil is selling in increasing quantities at high prices (often $1s. 4d.$). It is not in reality so superior to the best Ceylon oils as the price would indicate, but it is not adulterated, and has no bad reputation to contend against.

13. Of other oils, the export of cinnamon oil has slightly increased from 72,904 oz. in 1900 to 73,493 oz., but has not yet reached the figures of past years. Trial plantations of castor oil have been made by various planters during the year; the plant grows well here, and there seems no reason why Ceylon should not export this oil as well as India.

14. Of spices there is little to record. The cultivation of cardamoms is extending, and the export has increased from 537,455 to 559,704 lbs. Pepper shows signs of extension of cultivation, and it should at least be possible to dispense with the present large import of this spice. Exports of cinnamon show a rise in bales, a fall in chips, the figures for 1900 being 2,678,111 and 1,863,406 lbs., and those for the last year 2,756,270 and 1,516,083 lbs., respectively. The "wild cinnamon" again shows an enormous fall to 8,581 lbs. bales and 5,066 lbs. chips. Vanilla planting has slightly extended. Tobacco cultivation continues to extend in the North and also in the Dumbara district. Of fodder plants there is little to report.

Botanical Stations.

15. The chief botanical stations are at Peradeniya and Hakgala, where much good work is done in investigating plant disease,

analysing soils, &c., with a view to protecting existing products and introducing new ones.

16. In the outlying districts of the Island are several experimental gardens used to supply the villagers with seeds, and a scheme of school gardens has been initiated, which when fully developed will, it is hoped, yield good results, but patience and time will be required to start the scheme on a satisfactory basis.

(D) LAND GRANTS AND VALUE OF LAND.

1. During the year 24,102 acres of land were alienated by the Crown by sale or settlement, as against 32,250 in 1900 and realised Rs. 519,420, or, say, Rs. 21.50 on an average.

2. Under Sir Henry Ward's Minute 4,517 acres of irrigable land were sold. Of the balance 19,585 acres, no less than 18,049 were purchased by natives, as against 1,536 by Europeans.

3. In the Western Province sales and settlements to the value of Rs. 17,165 were made on block plans.

4. As usual, the Survey Department was fully employed, and carried out block surveys of 200,785 acres, topographical surveys of 1,871,360 acres, application surveys of 41,047 acres, and miscellaneous surveys of 612 acres; total 2,113,804 acres. The acquisition of land for the Railway Extensions and an increased number of Waste Lands Ordinance and Irrigation surveys swelled the volume of work to be done.

(E) SHIPPING.

1. The shipping returns for the Island show an increase of 453 vessels and an increase of 540,630 tons in tonnage:—

	1900.		1901.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered	3,147	4,250,066	3,367	4,557,607
Cleared	3,203	4,237,874	3,436	4,470,963
Total	6,350	8,487,940	6,803	9,028,570

2. The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered inwards and cleared outwards during the year 1901, exclusive of those calling to coal and for orders at Colombo and Galle, are shown :—

	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Colombo.	{ Inwards ...	1,804	4,111,517	543	47,608	2,347
	{ Outwards ...	1,808	4,019,266	537	49,767	2,345
	Total ...	3,612	9,130,783	1,080	97,375	4,692
Galle—	{ Inwards ...	166	299,668	14	982	180
	{ Outwards ...	164	300,397	16	1,250	180
	Total ...	330	600,065	30	2,232	360
						602,297

3. The arrivals at the Port of Colombo numbering 1,804 steamers of 4,111,517 tons and 543 sailing vessels of 47,608 tons, show an increase of 75 steamers (337,016 tons) and a decrease of 24 sailing vessels (10,635 tons). Galle had a decrease of 6 steamers (2,520 tons) and a decrease of 2 sailing vessels (301 tons).

4. The total collection of harbour dues at Colombo amounted to Rs. 1,123,428.

5. The nationality of vessels inwards and outwards during 1901 for the Island is thus made up:—

Nationality.	Entered Inwards.		Cleared Outwards.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	902	2,612,913	929	2,393,662
Colonial	1,956	592,155	1,998	724,762
Austrian	60	161,280	60	161,280
French	90	233,751	90	233,751
German	142	538,851	142	538,851
Japanese	59	205,235	59	205,235
Maldivian	89	8,525	89	8,525
Russian	37	117,633	37	117,633
Danish	7	18,707	7	18,707
Spanish	19	60,030	19	60,030
Italian	1	2,005	1	2,005
Norwegian... ..	4	4,825	4	4,825
Dutch	1	1,697	1	1,697

6. Compared with the years 1897, 1898, 1899, and 1900, the result inwards and outwards is as follows:—

Inwards.

1897.—A decrease of 404 vessels, but an increase of 1,190,192 tons.

1898.—A decrease of 184 vessels, but an increase of 951,901 tons.

1899.—A decrease of 478 vessels, but an increase of 835,825 tons.

1900.—An increase of 220 vessels, and an increase of 307,541 tons.

Outwards.

1897.—A decrease of 349 vessels, but an increase of 1,133,631 tons.

1898.—A decrease of 110 vessels, but an increase of 994,028 tons.

1899.—A decrease of 404 vessels, but an increase of 753,540 tons.

1900.—An increase of 233 vessels, and an increase of 233,089 tons.

7. The total harbour dues collected at the Port of Colombo during the year ended 31st December, 1901, are shown under the different headings:—

					Amount.	
					Ra.	c.
Entering dues...	...	...	...	...	249,418	50
Tonnage dues...	...	...	...	...	366,296	99
Over-hour dues	...	...	...	...	18,108	0
Wharfage dues	...	...	...	...	440,022	99
					1,073,846	48
Dues collected on live stock...	...	...	...	...	49,581	90
Total ...					1,123,428	38
Total collection for the year 1900 ...					1,146,769	33
Decrease ...					23,340	95

III.—LEGISLATION.

A large number of important Ordinances were passed in 1901, the chief legal enactments being—

An Ordinance to amend "The Local Boards' Ordinance, 1898."

An Ordinance to further amend "The Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance, 1889."

An Ordinance to provide for the segregation and treatment of lepers.

An Ordinance to make provision for preventing the introduction and spread of Insect or Fungous Pests or Plant Diseases.

An Ordinance relating to the possession and use of Firearms.

An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 17 of 1869, intituled "An Ordinance for the General Regulation of Customs in the Island of Ceylon."

An Ordinance to further amend "The Municipal Councils Ordinance, 1887."

An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Carriages, Carts, and Coaches.

An Ordinance to amend "The Irrigation and Paddy Cultivation Ordinances, 1889 and 1892."

An Ordinance to regulate the Possession and Sale of Poisons.

An Ordinance for regulating the Sale of Manures or Fertilizers of the Soil.

An Ordinance to amend "The Ceylon Paper Currency Ordinance, 1884."

An Ordinance to amend "The Criminal Procedure Code, 1898."

An Ordinance to amend "The Firearms Ordinance, 1901."

An Ordinance to provide for the publication of a Revised Edition of the Legislative Enactments of this Island.

An Ordinance to facilitate the Investment of Trust and other Funds in the United Kingdom in Ceylon Government Securities.

An Ordinance for defining the meaning of certain terms and for shortening the Language used in Ordinances and other Written Laws and for other purposes.

An Ordinance to amend "The Civil Procedure Code, 1889."

An Ordinance to amend "The Courts Ordinance, 1889."

An Ordinance to provide for the Registration of Dogs.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A) PRIMARY EDUCATION: MAIN FEATURES AND NUMBER OF SCHOOLS for 1901.

Schools are classed as Primary where the work is confined to the first five standards, Middle where they include any standard above the fifth, and High when they include what in

England would be classed as secondary education, *e.g.*, preparation for Cambridge Local Examination, London University Examination, and Indian University Examination.

It should be noted that the distinction between primary and secondary education is not very clearly drawn in Ceylon. In most of the English schools which prepare candidates for the highest examinations the lower part of the school is organised according to the Government schedules, and the pupils are presented for the same grant-in-aid examination as the primary schools. Many of these children belong to a class which would in England be attending elementary schools. Allowance must be made for this in scrutinising the figures which follow. For instance, the number of girls receiving primary English instruction appears as only 1,455; but primary instruction of exactly the same kind is also being given to a considerable number of the 2,122 girls who are attending English High schools.

Primary Education.

1. The number of children receiving primary education in Government and aided schools was in 1901 174,192, of whom 126,161 were boys and 48,031 were girls. Of this total, 53,333 were attending Government schools and 120,859 were attending aided schools. The total number of the schools here classed as primary was 1,857, of which 500 were Government schools and 1,357 were aided schools.

Primary education in English was given to 17,119 children, of this number 14,443 being boys and 2,676 girls. The cost of the Government schools was Rs. 316,495.87, and the sum paid as grants to the aided schools was Rs. 461,512.82.

2. In addition to the above, there were 2,062 unaided vernacular schools, which furnished numerical returns to Government; in these 35,218 children were said to be receiving instruction. But in most cases the numbers furnished by such schools are quite unreliable, and the education provided is of extremely little value.

3. In connection with the question whether the elementary education provided is adequate to the wants of the population, the number of those receiving higher instruction should be added to the above figures; this gives as the total number of children attending schools 183,261, about 5 per cent. of the population. It may be inferred that about half the children of school-going age are getting something in the way of education. Probably rather more than half are learning to read and write, for a large proportion of children leave school after passing the Second or Third Standard. The number presented for examination in the Fourth Standard is less than two-fifths of the number presented in the First Standard.

4. The children who are receiving no education at all are mainly those living in outlying country districts. The towns, as a rule, are well provided for by Missionary schools and other private agencies. The only exception to this is Colombo, where the problem of educating the poorer classes is beyond the power of the Missionary bodies, and has not yet been finally solved by the Government, who are carefully considering this difficult question.

5. Provision for compulsory attendance forms a part of the Gansabhawa rules in some country districts; in many of these it is enforced with creditable vigour. In country districts without Gansabhawas there is no means of enforcing school attendance.

Secondary Education.

6. The only Government institution devoted to secondary education is the Royal College, Colombo, in which the number of pupils has for some years averaged a little over 300; in 1901 it averaged 285. The pupils in the upper part of the College are presented for the Cambridge Local Examinations (Senior and Junior), London University Matriculation, and Intermediate in Arts. The staff consists of 16 masters, 5 of whom hold English University degrees. The gross cost to Government in 1901 was Rs. 41,221.54, of which the sum of Rs. 19,775 was recovered in school fees. Besides the Royal College, there are 49 aided High schools, educating 8,409 pupils, of whom 6,287 are boys and 2,122 are girls. There are also 38 unaided institutions, at which 1,826 pupils are said to be under instruction, but only a very small number of these are really receiving secondary education.

7. The encouragement offered by Government takes two forms: (a) Grants, (b) Scholarships:—

(a) In aided schools grants for specific subjects as well as for work in the standards are paid on the results of the Government examination in each school. Liberal grants are also paid for every pupil who obtains honours in the Senior or Junior Cambridge Local Examinations, or who passes the London University Matriculation or Intermediate in Arts. The total sum expended in grants to the High schools in 1901 was Rs. 42,119.

(b) The English University Scholarship of £200 for four years is awarded annually on the result of a special examination held by the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board for School Examinations.

The Gilchrist Scholarship of £150 for three years for Mathematics and Science is awarded once in three years on the results of the Senior Local Examination.

One Scholarship of Rs. 240 for three years is awarded annually to girls on the results of the Senior Cambridge Local Examination. On the results of the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one scholarship of Rs. 240 for three years and two of Rs. 120 for three years are awarded annually to boys, and two scholarships of Rs. 120 for three years are awarded annually to girls.

In 1901 the total sum expended on scholarships was Rs. 14,460.67.

8. On the whole, very creditable results are obtained in these examinations, by which secondary education is tested. In 1901 three candidates passed the London Matriculation, 2 in the First Division, 1 in the Second Division; 78 passed the Senior Cambridge Local Examination, 17 obtaining honours; 156 passed the Junior Cambridge Local Examination, 23 obtaining honours.

(B.) INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL, AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

9. There are no Government industrial schools, but industrial education is supported by a liberal grant. In 1901 the aided industrial schools, which are 35 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 46,187.53. These schools are under the management of the Church of England, Roman Catholic, Wesleyan, and American Missions. The number of pupils in them was 1,855. The trades taught were dressmaking 138, lace-making, 821, embroidery 357, cooking 15, tailoring 88, shoe-making 11, joinery and cabinet-making 192, printing 82, book-binding 116, ironwork 35. In some of these schools the work is excellently organised, each trade being under a skilled foreman, and sufficient outlay having been made to supply a really adequate stock of tools and plant. This is specially the case with the Roman Catholics, who place trained lay brothers in charge of each trade. In others the outlay on tools and plant has been insufficient, the trades are supervised by native foremen of an inferior character, and the management is in the hands of those who have no practical knowledge of the industries which are being taught. In 1898 an important step was taken in the direction of better organisation: a schedule was drawn up setting out three years' work in joinery, printing and bookbinding, and prescribing tests, the passing of which will in future be a necessary condition of earning a grant. These schools, which form the only provision for elementary technical education, may be expected in the future to increase considerably both in numbers and efficiency.

10. Higher technical education is provided for by the Technical College, a Government institution established in 1893. In 1897 it was re-organised, and its work largely extended. It is now the regular channel of admission for Ceylonese to the following Departments:—Public Works, Survey, Railway, Post and Telegraph. It contains Departments of Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Telegraphy, Electrical Engineering, Surveying

and Levelling, and Drawing. In 1901 the number of students was 187. The gross cost to Government was Rs. 41,988.22, of which sum Rs. 9,773.26 was recovered in fees, &c.

(C.) SCHOOL GARDENS AND ELEMENTARY HORTICULTURE.

11. An order was issued several years ago that every Government school was to have a garden, but nothing was done to introduce method into the general scheme, and although a few of the most intelligent schoolmasters set to work on practical lines, in the large majority of cases the effort stopped short at growing a few unsuccessful crotons. The scheme, now gradually being developed, is (1) to select in each Province those schools where, owing to climatic circumstances and space, a garden can be profitably developed, and to let the other schools alone for the present; (2) to cultivate the ideas of taste, neatness, pleasant surroundings on the one hand, and, on the other, in consultation with the revenue officer and headmen, to discover what economic products do best in, or ought to be introduced into, the neighbourhood, and to devote a large section of the garden to these; (3) to start supply gardens at various centres for the issue of seeds, cuttings, &c.; (4) to appoint a special inspector of gardens to take charge of the supply gardens, to visit all the school gardens in turn, to instruct the teachers how to teach their pupils and what points to pay special attention to, and to give a few elementary lessons in school on practical horticulture and botany.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A) HOSPITALS AND (B) ASYLUMS.

1. During the year 1901 two new hospitals were opened, one at Dimbula and the other at Pussellawa, making a total of 66 hospitals in the Island, as compared with 64 in the previous year.

2. The total number of cases treated in the different civil hospitals in the Island, including the De Soysa Lying-in Home, Colombo, was 43,949, showing an increase of 2,043 over the previous year. The total number of deaths was 4,219, being 484 more than in the previous year, while the daily average sick was 1,647.40, as against 1,679.10 in 1900.

3. In the field hospitals there were 4,680 cases treated with 156 deaths, against 4,360 cases treated and 154 deaths in 1900. The immigrant hospitals admitted 2,047 cases, of whom 90 died, against 1,944 cases treated with 79 deaths the previous year. The daily average sick in the field hospitals was 184.29 and in the immigrant hospitals 84.45 during the year under review, the previous year showing 181.78 and 74.28 respectively. In the district hospitals 14,816 cases were treated with 3,511 deaths.

against 13,785 cases with 2,454 deaths, the daily average sick in hospitals for 1901 and 1900 being 844.27 and 771.78 respectively.

4. During the year 1901 124 patients were admitted into the Lunatic Asylum, which number with 494 remaining at the end of the previous year made the total insane population 618, of whom 388 were males and 230 females. The daily average was 481.05. Of the total treated, 52 were discharged recovered, 14 relieved, and 17 not improved, and 72 deaths occurred during the year.

5. The Leper Asylum, Hendala, admitted 150 patients during the year, which with 278 patients remaining at the end of the previous year made a total of 428. The daily average sick was 272.9. Of the total treated, 93 were discharged relieved, 16 not improved, and 43 died.

6. There were 499 cases treated at the De Soysa Lying-in Home during the year, with 4 deaths; 1,030 cases at the Lady Havelock hospital, with 61 deaths; 645 cases at the Police hospital, Colombo, with 1 death; and at the Grenier Eye, Ear, and Throat Infirmary 4,336 cases were attended to during the year, against 3,676 in 1900. Twenty-seven leper patients were treated in the Leper ward of the Kalmunai hospital, of whom 1 died. The Friend-in-Need hospital at Jaffna treated 1,314 patients during the year, of whom 39 died; and at the Kanatta Infectious Diseases hospital a total of 405 cases was treated, of whom 29 died.

(c) POOR HOUSES.

Poor houses are unknown in Ceylon. The Friend-in-Need Society does much to relieve cases of distress in Colombo and the outstations. In Colombo a considerable number of loafers, who allege that they desire to find work or ask to be shipped home, make heavy claims on the Society, to whose funds the Government contributed Rs. 22,650. The Government also grants small monthly allowances in the case of paupers whom the revenue officers certify to be deserving.

(d) REFORMATORIES.

There is an industrial school at Maggona worked by private effort, which receives juvenile offenders at the rate of Rs. 7.50 per mensem.

(e) SAVINGS BANKS.

The Ceylon Savings Bank held Rs. 3,976,660 to the credit of 27,694 depositors, who placed Rs. 1,576,655 in the bank during the year.

To the Post Office Savings Bank 54,426 depositors contributed Rs. 786,261, and the total deposits aggregated Rs. 1,322,613.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A) POLICE.

1. The authorised strength of the Police Department on 31st December, 1901, was the Inspector-General, 4 Superintendents, 6 Assistant Superintendents, 27 Inspectors, 9 Sergeant-Majors, 223 Sergeants, 1,479 Constables, 1 Registrar of Servants, 1 Drill Instructor, 1 Chief Clerk, 58 Clerks, 1 Storekeeper, 1 Lock-up Keeper, 4 Magazine-keepers, 10 coolies, and 1 Apothecary, being a total of 1,827. The total cost of the Police for 1901 was Rs. 730,840; it was Rs. 728,125 in 1900.

2. Stations in connection with the prisoners of war were established at Ragama and Kelaniya at the cost of the Imperial Government.

3. Temporary stations for the protection of cacao plantations were also established at Matale, Palkelele, and Wattegama.

4. Taking the grand totals, we find that there were 17,690 true offences committed in 1901. Of these, 12,793 resulted in convictions in the Police Court or committals to higher courts.

5. The true cases and results for the last five years have been :—

	Year.	True offences.	Convictions or Committals.
	1897	20,800	13,023
	1898	15,312	10,673
	1899	14,434	10,173
	1900	17,703	12,990
	1901	17,690	12,793

6. Of the 17,690 true cases, 13,128 appear under the head of "Other Offences," which include statutory offences, breaches of Municipal and other by-laws, and other minor offences, leaving 4,562 cases of what may be considered as crime. The "Other Offences" in 1900 amounted to 13,516, leaving only 4,187 cases of crime; there has therefore been an increase of 375 cases of crime.

7. The following table gives a ready means of comparison of serious crime for the past five years :—

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Murder and homicide ...	149	127	125	146	160
Rape	43	38	39	32	36
Robbery	498	312	269	289	382
Burglary	719	638	977	1,245	1,384
Grievous hurt	657	500	371	391	441
Theft of cattle and prædial products.	1,714	1,076	885	1,119	1,127
Total	3,780	2,691	2,666	3,222	3,530

The following have been added to the specially-named offences, and have only been so recorded for the past three years:—

—			1899.	1900.	1901.
Arson	...	...	145	98	148
Riot	...	...	14	3	10

8. The convictions in the Superior Courts have increased. They are for the past five years as follows:—

Year.			Supreme Court.	District Court.
1897	...	...	449	706
1898	...	...	375	763
1899	...	...	279	452
1900	...	...	328	611
1901	...	...	468	646

Of those in 1901, 140 cases were sent to the District Court and 41 cases to the Supreme Court under the Habitual Criminals Ordinance. These cases would nearly all have been tried in the lower courts had there not been previous convictions of the offenders.

9. In the 160 cases of murder and homicide, 138 cases were committed for trial, of which 128 cases were tried in the Supreme Court. In 96 cases the accused were convicted and 47 persons were sentenced to be hanged, of whom 37 were executed.

In 59 of the above cases a knife or some other cutting or stabbing instrument was used; in 1900 such an instrument was used in 62 cases. Clubs were used in 21 cases, compared with 31 cases in 1900. In 27 cases the victims were shot, compared with 25 cases in 1900.

10. Thefts of cattle and prædial products are practically the same as in 1900. There were 1,010 cases of theft of cattle, with 273 convictions, but in many of these cases the loser compounded with the thief and recovered his cattle, suppressing all evidence. There were 117 cases of theft of prædial products, with 67 convictions.

11. For minor offences there were 10,793 convictions for 13,128 cases, including 136 convictions for 204 breaches of Ordinance No. 3 of 1897 (Prevention of Plague).

12. There was an increase of crime in the Western, Central, Southern, and North-Western Provinces, and a decrease in the Northern and Sabaragamuwa Provinces. Crime was normal in Uva, and does not practically exist in the North-Central and Eastern Provinces.

(B) PRISONS.

1. There has been a serious increase in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons in Ceylon during the past year.

2. Excluding defaulters under the Road Ordinance, who must be dealt with separately, the totals of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons for the last ten years have been:—

Year.					Number.
1892	...	...	...	...	6,638
1893	...	...	...	...	6,795
1894	...	...	...	...	6,141
1895	...	...	...	...	5,498
1896	...	...	...	...	5,288
1897	...	...	...	...	7,001
1898	...	...	...	...	7,051
1899	...	...	...	...	6,158
1900	...	...	...	...	6,000
1901	...	...	...	...	6,581

the increase of population being, between the Census of 1891 and that of 1901, 577,899.

3. The admissions to prison of defaulters under the Road Ordinance, who complete the prison population of convicted prisoners, for the same periods have been—

Year.					No.
1892	...	...	...	...	2,185
1893	...	...	...	...	1,127
1894	...	...	...	...	826
1895	...	...	...	...	744
1896	...	...	...	...	648
1897	...	...	...	...	500
1898	...	...	...	...	379
1899	...	...	...	...	329
1900	...	...	...	...	260
1901	...	...	...	...	354

4. Of the 354 road defaulters committed to jail, 165 served their sentences, 179 paid a fine of Rs. 10 and obtained their release, while 2 were discharged on account of informal committal, and 8 on medical certificate.

5. In 1901 the date for paying single rate was extended from 28th February to 31st March under Ordinance No. 10 of 1900, and it is probable that some of the more ignorant villagers imagined that the tax was to be remitted and purposely refused to pay.

6. Of the total admissions of convicted prisoners to prisons, the following figures give those from the Superior Courts for the same periods :—

Year.					Number.
1892	...	...	...	...	789
1893	...	...	...	...	655
1894	...	...	...	...	859
1895	...	...	...	...	614
1896	...	...	...	...	854
1897	...	...	...	...	1,155
1898	...	...	...	...	1,138
1899	...	...	...	...	731
1900	...	...	...	...	939
1901	...	...	...	...	1,114

There has therefore been an increase over last year of those convicted for serious offences of 175.

7. There is an increase in convictions for murder and manslaughter. The numbers of the last ten years are as follows :—

Year.					Number.
1892	...	...	...	...	58
1893	...	...	...	...	50
1894	...	...	...	...	82
1895	...	...	...	...	75
1896	...	...	...	...	62
1897	...	...	...	...	88
1898	...	...	...	...	58
1899	...	...	...	...	71
1900	...	...	...	...	82
1901	...	...	...	...	101

The number of men sentenced to death and of those whose capital sentences were carried out are as follows :—

Year.			Sentenced to Death.	Hanged.
1892	...	...	26	16
1893	...	...	23	12
1894	...	...	43	23
1895	...	...	26	22
1896	...	...	37	25
1897	...	...	40	20
1898	...	...	28	19
1899	...	...	27	21
1900	...	...	51	32
1901	...	...	47	37

8. This last table is most unsatisfactory, showing as it does that there were 101 convictions against 58 in 1892, and 37 executions against 16. Of convictions for aggravated assaults there were no less than 285.

9. Much has been written to explain the prevalence of violent crime in this Colony, but the arguments used in respect of one year are frequently upset by the figures of the next.

10. The daily average of convicted prisoners in jail was 2,684, against 2,360 in 1900.

11. Two prisoners escaped, but both were recaptured.

12. The cost of maintaining each prisoner was Rs. 174.75, against Rs. 189.50 in 1900.

13. The number of deaths in the prisons was 121.

14. Prison offences decreased, and in only 148 was recourse had to corporal punishment.

15. The daily sick rate was 152, against 147 in 1900 and 130 in 1899.

16. Of 39 Europeans convicted, only 2 were resident in Ceylon, the balance, 37, being sailors, passengers, or loafers.

(c) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

1. The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrates' Courts was 71,307, in which 79,342 persons were charged, 43,008 being acquitted summarily, 34,019 convicted, and 2,315 committed before a higher court.

2. Of 2,511 committals before the Superior Courts, 1,272 resulted in a verdict for the Crown and 1,239 in favour of the accused. The number of committals in 1900 was 1,826, of which 1,007 ended in favour of the Crown.

3. In murder cases there were 48 convictions to 52 acquittals, homicides resulted in 72 convictions to 10 acquittals, and cattle stealing showed 77 convictions to 80 acquittals.

4. In the Police Courts 71,307 cases were instituted, against 67,196 in 1900, the convictions being 28,786 against 28,766. Of 2,433 persons charged with cattle stealing, 1,927 were acquitted; and of 2,682 prosecutions under the Labour Laws, 1,855 were unsuccessful.

5. The number of convictions in the Superior Courts rose from 1,007 to 1,272.

6. The Gansabhawas did useful work as usual.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A) POPULATION.

The total population enumerated on the last Census day (1st March, 1901) was 3,578,332. Since that date to the end of the year 1901 there was an excess of 29,320 of registered births over deaths, and a further excess of 11,513 of Indian immigrants over emigrants. Adding these two excesses to the enumerated population we get the estimate of 3,619,165 at the end of the year. The increase of population during the year was 37,699 (or about 1 per cent.).

Birth- and Death-rates.

134,252 births and 98,813 deaths were registered, equal to a rate of 37·3 and 27·5 per mille per annum respectively. As compared with 1900, the birth-rate shows a decline 1·2 per mille and the death-rate a decline of 1·1 per mille. As compared with the average rates for the decade 1891-1900, the birth-rate shows an increase of 3·0 and the death-rate a decline of ·1.

(B) PUBLIC HEALTH.

The public health of the inhabitants of the Island was good. There was an absence of those widespread severe outbreaks of malarial fever which characterised the previous year, but cases of small-pox were numerous, with a few outbreaks of cholera. The sanitary conditions throughout all the towns and villages of the Island are steadily being improved.

During the year under review cholera occurred in the Western, Northern, North-Western, and Uva Provinces. Nine cases, with 8 deaths, occurred in the Western Province. Of these, 8 cases—all fatal—occurred at the Ragama Cooly Dépôt. The greatest number of cases was reported from the Northern Province, where 95 cases occurred, with 60 deaths; the Province of Uva comes next, with 46 cases and 27 deaths. Four outbreaks of cholera occurred during the year at Ragama Cooly Dépôt.

There were 390 cases of small-pox, of which 75 proved fatal. Of these, 311 occurred in the Western Province, chiefly in Colombo.

Of enteric fever, 292 cases were recorded, with 74 deaths; of leprosy 590; and of parangi 3,117. Only 12 of the parangi patients died.

(c) SANITATION.

General Sanitary Condition of the Colony and the Chief Towns.

The town is growing rapidly, and urgent methods are needed, and are being taken, to keep it in as sanitary a condition as possible.

Port sanitation is the first consideration, as the number of ships entering the port from all parts of the world is rapidly increasing, and the first line of defence to the town against disease is the sanitation of the port. This has been carried out in a most efficient manner during the year. In the town itself the streets have been made wider, so that air space is abundant, but the dust is objectionable and detrimental to health. The streets should, if possible, be watered more frequently to allay this nuisance. The houses of the poor still need much improvement, and attempts to make these more healthy and sanitary are making their mark. The scavenging is fairly good.

Fæcal matter is still removed at night and buried. It need hardly be said that this is objectionable, and that some other method is desirable. Much has been done, but much remains to be done, with regard to the drainage of Colombo. Everywhere collections of stagnant water are to be seen, but though these would appear likely breeding grounds for anopheles, and therefore for the spread of malaria, only *Culex* larvæ have up to the present been found. Government has sanctioned the modified system of drainage proposed by Mr. Mansergh, C.M.G.

The water supply derived from the Labugama reservoir has always been favourably reported on by the City Analyst. Infectious cases, viz., small-pox and enteric fever, have been common.

Kandy, the capital of the Central Province, possesses a Municipality, and employs a medical man as Sanitary Officer. The drainage of the town is defective, but measures are under consideration for an improved system. The water supply is of good quality, but during a long drought is a source of some anxiety. The town itself is well scavenged, and is lighted by electricity. The burial of night soil is the method adopted for the conservancy of the town.

Jaffna, the chief town of the Northern Province, possesses neither a Municipality nor a Local Board. Certain parts of the town are in a very crowded and an insanitary state. There are two public latrines, which are not resorted to. The cesspit system is in vogue. The water supply is from uncovered wells. Sunlight and free circulation of air are interfered with by the houses being huddled together and by high cadjan fences. The foreshore and other places are fouled and polluted. Drainage requires attention.

Galle, the capital of the Southern Province, is still the most insanitary of the towns possessing Municipalities. Although a good many improvements have been effected as regards the drainage and conservancy, much yet remains to be done. The water supply is still derived from the Bikke reservoir; a system of filtration has not yet been arranged owing to the cost. The dry-earth system has been introduced in some parts of the town, and has been found to work satisfactorily. Although a good deal has been done as regards the drains in the Fort, they are still very defective in several localities.

Batticaloa, the chief town of the Eastern Province, possesses a Local Board, and the sanitary condition is said to be fairly satisfactory. The drainage is very bad, and the water supply equally so; the small supply of good water from wells is curtailed by the wells running dry during drought. The latrine arrangements are very defective; cesspits are used. As in Jaffna the foreshore and neighbouring jungles are polluted by human excreta.

Kurunegala, the chief town of the North-Western Province, is in fairly good sanitary condition, but its drainage and water supply are defective.

Anuradhapura, the principal town of the North-Central Province, formerly had a reputation for unhealthiness, but of recent years, owing to improved sanitary measures, the health of the inhabitants has wonderfully improved.

Badulla, the chief town of the Province of Uva, is a good specimen of what a sanitary tropical town should be, and is provided with a good water service by pipes. The town is well kept. The drainage, however, is defective.

Ratnapura, the chief town of the Province of Saabaragamuwa, possesses a Local Board, and is in a fair state of sanitation. The water supply is good.

No cases of plague were recorded.

During the year 165,948 subjects were vaccinated, 152,106 for the first time. The percentage of successful vaccinations was 92 per cent.

(D) CLIMATE.

Rainfall.

The rainfall varied from 151·29 inches in 234 days at Ratnapura to 26·19 inches in 67 days at Hambantota.

Temperature.

The climate of Ceylon varies considerably in different parts of the Island, both as regards temperature and rainfall. In the low lands the climate is tropical, but in the mountains in the interior the climate is found equal to that of many parts of Europe.

The mean temperature for the year 1901 was highest at Mannar (82·6) and lowest at Nuwara Eliya (59·4).

The mean temperature at Colombo and Kandy was 81·1 and 75·2 respectively.

The mean daily range of temperature (*i.e.*, the mean of the daily difference between the maximum and minimum temperature) was highest at Ratnapura (25·3) and lowest at Galle (7·2).

The mean daily range at Colombo was 13·0 and at Kandy 16·4.

The absolute range (or the difference between the highest and lowest temperature of the air recorded during the year) was greatest at Ratnapura and lowest at Galle, having been 35·8 and 10·4 respectively.

The absolute difference at Colombo was 19·3 and at Kandy 25·7.

Direction and Force of Wind.

From November to February the wind blows from the north-east and from April to October from the south-west. The force of the movement of the wind varied very greatly, between 13·8 miles and 334 miles per diem at Ratnapura and Jaffna respectively.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

The annexed tables show the revenue and expenditure of the Post Office during the past decade:—

Year.		Postage Stamps.	Unpaid Postage Collec- tions.	Money Order Commis- sion.	Sea Con- veyance of Mails.	Telegraph Receipts.	Tele- phone Receipts.	Reim- burse- ments in Aid.	Other Collec- tions.	Total.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1892...	...	421,349	7,259	34,095	764	114,953	—	3,400	3,258	585,078
1893...	...	427,242	6,078	37,761	186	120,029	—	4,500	9,293	605,088
1894...	...	466,493	6,684	42,758	929	126,439	—	5,300	5,772	654,375
1895...	...	516,762	6,565	49,849	5,281	131,573	—	5,800	4,457	720,287
1896...	...	542,082	7,727	59,464	32	144,852	—	6,300	7,917	768,374
1897...	...	615,202	7,532	58,055	100,665	168,366	16,274	7,394	5,947	979,435
1898...	...	644,904	8,338	66,797	24,848	188,402	16,638	6,862	6,211	963,000
1899...	...	607,128	6,682	64,157	35,452	183,031	16,315	6,971	3,795	923,531
1900...	...	656,015	7,216	79,824	19,607	197,936	16,387	7,555	20,365	1,005,005
1901...	...	687,517	7,397	62,418	29,718	215,056	17,910	7,864	11,608	1,039,488

EXPENDITURE of the DEPARTMENT from 1892 to 1901 inclusive.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.		Other Charges.	Total.
	Postal.	Telegraph.		
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1892 ...	165,829 82	101,376 21	315,188 30	582,394 36
1893 ...	184,119 27	106,549 59	360,330 99	650,999 85
1894 ...	215,078 95	116,635 12	359,093 36	690,807 44
1895 ...	224,724 79	121,507 24	407,243 32	753,475 35
1896 ...	232,554 3	125,446 60	556,719 20	914,739 83
1897 ...	240,172 14	140,875 1	457,228 31	838,275 46
1898 ...	228,883 31	147,886 35	555,606 47	932,376 13
1899 ...	252,710 72	152,974 84	558,729 20 ^o	964,414 76
1900 ...	278,284 33	166,462 92	646,676 87 [*]	1,091,424 12
1901 ...	301,994 14	179,061 13	571,620 79 [*]	1,052,676 6

^o These figures include special expenditure on Telegraph and Telephone Construction.

In 1901 the increase of revenue was normal under all heads, except Commission on Money Orders, the decrease in which was attributable to a falling off in the number and value of telegraphic money orders to India.

Mails.—The rapid growth of the business done by the Ceylon Post Office is illustrated by the statements which follow. The weight of mails despatched from Ceylon to the United Kingdom for ten years was :—

Year	By P. & O. Packets.		By Orient Packets.		By French Packets.		By German Packets.		By Bibby Line.		Total.	
	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.
1892	lb. 4,009	lb. 10,338	lb. 2,008	lb. 5,489	lb. 753	lb. 1,286	lb. 318	lb. 544	lb. —	lb. —	lb. 7,088	lb. 17,657
1893	... 4,509	... 13,142	... 2,306	... 6,209	... 598	... 1,154	... 393	... 778	... —	... —	... 7,806	... 21,283
1894	... 4,627	... 13,249	... 2,492	... 6,041	... 625	... 1,310	... 389	... 989	... 50	... 505	... 8,183	... 22,094
1895	... 4,851	... 14,030	... 2,769	... 7,378	... 565	... 1,076	... 297	... 620	... 98	... 439	... 8,580	... 23,543
1896	... 5,174	... 15,556	... 3,086	... 9,504	... 584	... 1,431	... 583	... 1,283	... 37	... 64	... 9,464	... 27,838
1897	... 5,217	... 17,056	... 3,280	... 9,992	... 859	... 2,466	... 736	... 2,116	... —	... —	... 10,092	... 31,630
1898	... 5,482	... 17,977	... 3,512	... 11,774	... 997	... 2,477	... 784	... 1,990	... 55	... 115	... 10,830	... 34,333
1899	... 6,836	... 20,217	... 4,925	... 14,043	... 561	... 1,160	... 841	... 2,508	... 15	... 38	... 13,178	... 37,966
1900	... 6,506	... 19,153	... 4,721	... 13,730	... 1,164	... 3,283	... 1,126	... 3,098	... —	... —	... 13,517	... 39,264
1901	... 7,211	... 20,817	... 5,399	... 14,240	... 1,485	... 4,014	... 1,774	... 4,479	... —	... —	... 15,869	... 43,550

It will be seen that in ten years the weight of letters and post cards has increased 124 per cent., and the weight of other articles 146 per cent. The table is of further interest as showing how increasing advantage is taken of the French and German steamers.

Parcel rates between India and Ceylon were reduced by nearly 15 per cent., and the division of the postage was adjusted to the benefit of Ceylon.

Year	By P. & O. Packets.		By Orient Packets.		By French Packets.		By German Packets.		By Bibby Line.		Total.	
	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.	Letters and Post Cards.	Other Articles.
1892	lb. 4,009	lb. 10,338	lb. 2,008	lb. 5,489	lb. 753	lb. 1,286	lb. 318	lb. 544	lb. —	lb. —	lb. 7,088	lb. 17,657
1893	4,509	13,142	2,306	6,209	598	1,154	393	778	—	—	7,806	21,283
1894	4,627	13,249	2,492	6,041	625	1,310	389	989	50	505	8,183	22,094
1895	4,851	14,030	2,769	7,378	565	1,076	297	620	98	439	8,580	23,543
1896	5,174	15,556	3,086	9,504	584	1,431	583	1,283	37	64	9,464	27,838
1897	5,217	17,056	3,280	9,992	859	2,466	736	2,116	—	—	10,092	31,630
1898	5,482	17,977	3,512	11,774	997	2,477	784	1,990	55	115	10,830	34,333
1899	6,836	20,217	4,925	14,043	561	1,160	841	2,508	15	38	13,178	37,966
1900	6,506	19,153	4,721	13,730	1,164	3,283	1,126	3,098	—	—	13,517	39,264
1901	7,211	20,817	5,399	14,240	1,485	4,014	1,774	4,479	—	—	15,869	43,550

It will be seen that in ten years the weight of letters and post cards has increased 124 per cent., and the weight of other articles 146 per cent. The table is of further interest as showing how increasing advantage is taken of the French and German steamers.

Parcel rates between India and Ceylon were reduced by nearly 15 per cent., and the division of the postage was adjusted to the benefit of Ceylon.

Money Orders.—The next table shows the money order business done:—
MONEY ORDER BUSINESS from 1892 to 1901, inclusive.

Year.	Inland.		Indian.		United Kingdom.		Colonial & Foreign.		Grand Total	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1892	118,442	Rs. 3,238,129	31,716	Rs. 1,162,917	2,597	Rs. 65,843	2,998	Rs. 167,766	155,753	Rs. 4,634,655
1893	128,324	3,347,480	35,278	1,200,393	2,801	80,669	2,881	164,622	169,284	4,793,164
1894	135,895	3,079,216	41,159	1,622,806	2,951	76,800	3,433	181,680	183,438	4,960,501
1895	150,406	3,473,928	52,165	2,013,110	2,777	81,069	3,563	189,418	208,911	5,757,525
1896	161,789	3,825,490	67,886	2,369,964	3,670	103,212	3,640	179,762	236,985	6,478,428
1897	178,295	4,208,559	75,930	2,826,341	4,756	118,179	3,440	158,941	262,421	7,312,020
1898	190,476	4,559,862	79,788	2,919,819	6,133	133,459	4,272	184,021	280,669	7,797,161
1899	193,998	4,625,778	86,400	2,812,400	7,184	151,318	4,616	214,383	292,198	7,803,829
1900	233,251	5,320,346	110,024	3,726,274	7,646	160,414	5,297	247,673	356,218	9,454,707
1901	239,171	5,231,615	112,932	3,539,698	9,760	299,137	5,539	270,578	365,402	9,341,034

The average advance in the value of the business for ten years is 10 per cent. per annum. The value for 1901 was Rs. 113,500 less than for 1900, a drop of 1 per cent., but 1900 was an abnormal year, and the increase of 1901 over 1899 was very close on 20 per cent. The uncertain factor is the telegraph money order business with India, which is presumably affected by the immigrant labour market.

The commission paid on money orders issued in 1901 amounted to Rs. 62,400, and orders on Government service were issued free, the commission on which amounting to Rs. 9,131 was earned but not paid.

In the course of the year a direct money order exchange was arranged with Natal, serving British South Africa, and largely availed of by the prisoners of war in Ceylon.

A material improvement effected was the issue of money orders on the United Kingdom, the colonies, and foreign countries at every post office in Ceylon, the public being thus saved the trouble of sending a local money order to the General Post Office to purchase a foreign money order.

Telegraph Lines.—The only new lines completed during the year were:—

(1) The extension of the Madulkele line on from Wattegama to Kandy, $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles, to take the Wattegama office off the Trincomalee line and put the Madulkele Office direct on to Kandy, the latter office being in a better position to act as a transit office than Wattegama.

(2) Urugasmanhandiya Boer Camp looped into the Colombo-Galle line, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles of posts and 7 miles of wire.

(3) The Colombo-Nuwara Eliya direct wire looped into the Kandy office for testing purposes, 8 miles of wire.

(4) The looping of all passing wires into the Polgahawela and Veyangoda Offices for testing purposes for the localisation of faults.

(5) A metallic circuit for the Tyer's tablet apparatus between Maradana and Mount Lavinia, 16 miles of wire. Total $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles of posts and 41 miles of wire.

The following new offices were opened in 1901:—Ragama, Mullaittivu, Vavuniya, Urugasmanhandiya Camp.

Revenue.—The revenue derived from the Telephone branch was—

					Rs.	c.
In 1898 ...	...	...	...	...	16,635	82
In 1899 ...	...	...	...	...	16,045	7
In 1900 ...	...	...	...	...	16,387	0
In 1901 ...	...	...	...	...	17,909	94

IX.—MILITARY FORCE AND EXPENDITURE.

The annexed table shows the expenditure on account of military services, and includes an additional sum on account of commutation of the rebate of duty on stores supplied to the troops. The fixed sum of Rs. 25,000 was augmented in consideration of the increased number of troops in garrison since the advent of the Prisoners of War:—

Military Expenditure by the Colony during 1901.

Military Expenditure by the Colony during 1901.	Amount.			
	Rs.	c.	Rs.	c.
Colonial Contribution for Regular Troops—				
Balance due for 1900	164,928	16		
Expenditure on account 1901	1,913,482	00		
			2,078,410	16
For Volunteer Regiment, including Miscellaneous Stores, Arms for New Rifle Corps, and passage money of Non-Commissioned Officers on expiry of term of service.			270,675	95
Compensation in lieu of exemption from payment of Customs Duties on articles imported for the Troops.			42,669	99
Cost of erecting certain buildings for the Military.			46,886	0
Expenses connected with the Ceylon Contingent for South Africa.			486	52
Expenses connected with the Fortifications of Colombo.			8,535	67
Total			2,447,664	29

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(1) IMPORTANT EVENTS.

The death of Her gracious Majesty Queen Victoria caused the most profound sorrow throughout the Island.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall, who visited Ceylon in the spring, met with a loyal and enthusiastic reception.

A Census of the population was successfully carried out.

At Ambalangoda the inhabitants refused to pay the Local Board rate, and assumed so obstructive an attitude that a police force was sent down to enforce the distraint of property. The police were attacked by the mob and were compelled to fire in self-defence, causing more than one casualty. A military force was then despatched to the scene of the disturbance, but the rioters had dispersed before its arrival. A punitive police force has since been stationed at Ambalangoda.

Arabi Pasha and the Egyptian exiles were permitted to return to Egypt.

The appointment of a Fourth Judge of the Supreme Court was sanctioned.

The Government purchased Gangarooka estate, Peradeniya, at a cost of £8,000, for the establishment of an experimental plantation.

By the retirement of Sir E. Noel Walker, who served as Colonial Secretary for over fourteen years, and of Sir A. C. Lawrie, whose connection with the Island goes back to 1873, the Colony lost two of its highest and most popular officials.

The careful precautions against the introduction of plague continued to be entirely efficacious.

(B) PUBLIC WORKS.

The following tabular statement shows the expenditure on Annually Recurrent Works, Extraordinary Public Works, and those chargeable to loans and other funds during the years 1895 to 1901, inclusive:—

Year.	Public Works.		Miscellaneous including loans.	Total.
	Recurrent.	Extraor- dinary.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1895	1,756,001	1,286,889	—	3,042,890
1896	1,823,558	1,219,106	—	3,042,664
1897	1,726,669	1,838,650	—	3,565,319
1898	1,900,307	1,510,143	369,324	3,779,774
1899	2,040,684	1,707,119	1,250,125	4,997,928
1900	2,029,279	1,610,261	1,074,665	4,714,205
1901	2,112,905	1,348,032	666,028	4,126,965

The charges under Personal Emoluments amounted to Rs. 428,948.

The roads in this Colony are classified under the following descriptions:—Metalled, Track Metalled, Gravelled, and Natural. The total length maintained during the year in each Province was as follows:—

Province.	Metalled.	Track Metalled.	Gravelled.	Natural.	Total.
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Western ...	295.26	—	62.94	—	358.20
Central ...	534.33	—	70.74	65.25	670.33
Northern ...	310.00	—	86.50	121.00	517.50
Southern ...	272.78	—	47.50	—	320.28
Eastern...	162.25	—	132.60	54.00	348.85
North-Western	175.67	143.00	76.71	30.00	425.38
North-Central ...	101.78	68.75	138.28	8.60	317.41
Uva ...	246.03	—	25.33	102.00	373.36
Sabaragamuwa...	185.97	80.59	17.94	25.00	309.50
Total ...	2,284.07	292.34	658.54	405.85	3,640.80

The above statement shows an increase of 51.87 miles of roads in charge of this Department. This is due to the completion of the Annfield road, extension of the Madampe-Hambantota road, and the transfer of the Matara-Akuressa, Maradankadawela-Habarana, and Kekirawa-Talawe roads from the Provincial Road Committee to this Department.

The average cost per mile of road upkeep in the several provinces was as follows:—

Province.	Metalled.	Track Metalled.	Gravelled.	Natural.	General Average.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Western ...	806	—	315	—	720
Central ...	629	—	233	77	533
Northern ...	273	—	191	52	206
Southern ...	577	—	180	—	518
Eastern...	456	—	229	20	302
North-Western	409	461	245	33	370
North-Central ...	436	—	174	—	310
Uva ...	651	—	284	71	467
Sabaragamuwa...	661	437	270	97	535

The general average throughout the Colony was:—Metalled roads Rs. 549 per mile, gravelled roads Rs. 221 per mile, natural roads Rs. 57 per mile.

Considerable progress has been made in carrying out the works asked for by the Chamber of Commerce:—

The building of a quay wall in front of the old grain sheds J and K is in hand.

The construction of two jetties on the north-east face of the sea wall is practically completed.

The ironwork for the erection of a light open shed to shelter goods landed adjacent to I warehouse is completed.

Another iron shed adjoining I warehouse of the same length and width has been completed. Commissariat street has been included in the Customs premises, and the road nearly completed round by G and H warehouses.

The ironwork has been completed for covering in the roadway on the sea front of the export warehouses B, C, and D, and erection is in hand.

The lengthening of the two jetties at Kochchikada has practically been completed.

One-half of the roadway leading to the warehouses at Kochchikada has been paved with Jarrah timber blocks laid on concrete.

Plans and estimate have been prepared and submitted for the reconstruction of the Master Attendant's jetty.

Orders have been placed for the supply of electric cranes for use in the Customs premises.

The work of widening Seashore street is in hand.

Camps for Prisoners of War.—The maintenance and additions required from time to time at the camps have been duly attended to.

Cooly Camps, Ragama.—The erection of a new camp similar to camp No. 5 is in hand.

Minor Courts, Hulftsdorp.—The erection of these buildings has made substantial progress, and it is anticipated they will shortly be ready for occupation.

Main Pipe Line.—The pipe line has been satisfactorily maintained, a constant flow being obtained throughout the year. The few leaks which occurred were in the portion duplicated, and were repaired without the flow of water to Colombo being stopped.

Maligakanda Service Reservoir.—This reservoir has been maintained in a satisfactory state of repair without any exceptional expenditure.

Distribution Works.—The distribution works were maintained in a satisfactory state of repair. During the year four new

standposts or street fountains were fixed and four were removed, the total number in use being 621. 136 new services for domestic supply were constructed, making a total number of 3,071. 53 meters were fixed to services for other than domestic purposes. 28 meters were removed, making a total of 206 in use. 1,269 yards of 3-in. pipe for extended services were laid during the year.

Except during January, the maximum daily consumption each month exceeded the maximum discharging capacity of the Labugama main, viz., 2,900,000 gallons per diem, necessitating the water being shut off from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. during the following periods:—

April 1 to 8
August 1 to 31
September 1 to 30
October 1 to 28
December 15 to 28.

The average consumption of water per head per diem, taking the population at 150,000, was for all purposes at the rate of 18·5 gallons; deducting the metered supplies reduces the rate to 15·5 gallons.

The survey of the important feeder roads to the Northern Railway lying within the North-Western Province has been carried out; five new bridges on the Galle-Udugama road are almost completed, and a lattice girder bridge has been erected over the Battulu-oya.

During the year 482 orders were received at the Government Factory amounting to Rs. 885,620.34, making with Rs. 194,604.54 brought forward from 1900 a total of Rs. 1,080,224.88; to this amount must be added disbursements on account of camps for prisoners of war and reception of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York.

The total amount therefore available for expenditure for 1901 was as follows:—

	Rs.	c.
Brought forward from 1900	194,604	54
Factory Orders for 1901	885,620	34
Camps for Prisoners of War	90,359	17
Reception of Their Royal Highnesses	6,333	38
Total	1,176,917	43

During the same period 172 iron bridge spans of varying length were turned out at a cost of Rs. 286,964.

The expenditure on buildings amounted to Rs. 75,845, on harbour improvements to Rs. 193,378, on miscellaneous services, including cost of tools and plant, to Rs. 51,323; for irrigation works Rs. 3,659; and for other departments Rs. 25,668.

The expenditure on Colombo Harbour was Rs. 3,225,808.27, as under:—

	Amount.			
	Rs.		c.	
Upkeep of South-West Breakwater, Inner Harbour, Dredging, &c.	—		83,198	10
Harbour Improvements, Dredging, and Moorings.	227,861		98	
New works at Customs, &c.	418,994		28	
			646,856	26
Harbour Extension Works, Graving Dock			2,495	753 91
Total			3,225,808	27

The total expenditure on Harbour Extension Works, Graving Dock, &c., to 31st December, 1901, is—

	Amount.			
	Rs.		c.	
Harbour Extension Works, North-East and North-West Breakwaters, Reclamation, Coal Depôt, Patent Slip, and Barge Repairing Basin.	5,663,639		22	
Stock of plant, stores, &c., at December 31, 1901, for Harbour Extension Works, &c.	1,584,535		45	
Removal of work-yard from Galle Buck to Reclamation, building block jetty, &c.	1,046,802		43	
Graving Dock... ..	1,577,271		57	
Plant for Graving Dock	541,290		83	
Total Expenditure to December 31 1901.			10,416,539	50
Grand Total Expenditure from commencement of South-West Breakwater in 1873 to December 31, 1901.			25,487,640	15

The Northern Arm was completed to a distance of 1,275 feet, about one-half the total length, and good progress was made with the work of the Graving Dock.

The original capital cost of open railway lines is Rs. 53,090,104. The total cost of the Railway, including additions and improvements, up to December 31, 1901, has been Rs. 57,970,083, but this does not include the sum of Rs. 2,351,493 spent during the last five years on new works and rolling stock, which has been paid out of revenue.

On January 1, 1901, the capital outstanding on loans (sterling debts converted into local currency at the rate of 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per rupee) was Rs. 32,229,610, or Rs. 66,150 more than on January 1, 1900, due to a slightly lower rate of exchange.

Result of the year's working:—

	1901.	1900.	Increase, 1901.	Decrease 1901.
	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross Receipts	7,938,131	8,272,351	—	334,220
Working Expenses	4,736,701	4,374,310	362,391	—
Profit	3,201,430	3,898,041	—	696,611

Interest.—The interest paid on loans amounted to Rs. 1,235,178.

Nett Earnings.—After deducting the working expenses and the payment of interest, the nett amount contributed by the railway to the general revenue of the Colony amounted to Rs. 1,966,252, equivalent to a dividend of 3·39 per cent. on the total capital cost of Rs. 57,970,083.

On ordinary passenger traffic there was a decrease of Rs. 172,407 and on goods traffic a decrease of Rs. 210,667. There was a decrease of 3,879 tons of tea, an increase of 5,535 tons of copperah and 1,858 tons of fruit and vegetables and other 5th class goods, and a decrease of 12,000 tons in plumbago.

The mileage was not increased during the year.

(C.) IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

The figures obtained from the Government Agents are incomplete and unreliable. They show that 120,603 immigrants arrived in Ceylon from India, while 118,343 left for India from Ceylon.

(D.) FUTURE PROSPECTS OF TRADE.

The value of the trade of the Colony has fallen somewhat in the year under review, but later statistics show that there has been no further decline, and the prospects of trade are good.

(E.) SUITABILITY OF CLIMATE FOR EUROPEANS.

The climate is well suited for Europeans, but under existing conditions manual labour is practically out of the question for the white man, who finds his avocation in sedentary pursuits or in the supervision of labour.

(F.) RATES OF WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The rate of wages for prædial labourers varies from 25 to 50 cents per diem; 37½ cents is the general rate. Domestic servants earn from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 per mensem, the average wage being about Rs. 12. Trade employes earn from 50 cents to Re. 1.50 a day. The cost of living varies greatly in different parts of the

Island, being lowest in the Northern and Eastern Provinces and highest in Colombo, where house rent is a serious item to rich and poor. The ordinary villager can probably live in fair comfort for Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 a month.

The cost of living for a European is somewhat difficult to calculate, the purchasing power of the rupee being something midway between its nominal value of 2s. and gold value of 1s. 4d., if local and imported purchases are considered together.

(G.) OPENINGS FOR INVESTMENT OF CAPITAL.

There has been a slight revival in plumbago and no improvement in the prospects of tea, but cocoanuts continue to do well, and the many minor products of the Island are not unremunerative.

(H.) SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

The social condition of the people is good in so far as their material welfare is concerned, but their moral failing is illustrated by the figures relating to violent crime. It is true that cold-blooded premeditated crime is of rare occurrence, but acts of violence committed in the heat of the moment are rife. Corporal punishment, it must be admitted, has proved much less efficacious than was anticipated as a deterrent punishment. Education will doubtless furnish the radical cure in time, but the process will be a long and tedious one. It is remarkable that of the 37 men who paid the highest penalty of the law, all but two were Buddhists, whose religious teaching inculcates the theory of the sanctity of life. These figures would tend to show that religious education and training have little effect in restraining passion and jealousy, the primary cause of most violent crime in Ceylon.

(I.) GENERAL CONDITION OF THE COLONY.

Though the past year showed no such pronounced increase of revenue as the phenomenal year 1900, the general prosperity of the Colony is unimpaired.

J. J. THORBURN,

Principal Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Colombo, August 8, 1902.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 24-40, BACON STREET, E.
1902.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 352.

COCOS ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1901.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
March, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-22.] Price 1½d.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title-page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
326	Barbados... ..	1900
327	Bahamas... ..	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia... ..	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
336	British New Guinea	1899-1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar...	"
343	Basutoland	1900-1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	"
346	Northern Nigeria	1900-1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900-1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900-1901

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand... ..	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas... ..	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific...	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas... ..	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 352.

COCOS
ISLANDS,
1901.
—

COCOS ISLANDS.

GOVERNOR SIR F. A. SWETTENHAM to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Penang.

23rd December, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward copies of a report by
Mr. W. L. Carter, Acting-Collector of Land Revenue, Singapore,
who was deputed to make the annual visit to the Cocos Islands.

I have, &c.,

F. A. SWETTENHAM.

COCOS
ISLANDS,
1901.

REPORT ON VISIT TO COCOS ISLANDS.

Land Office,
Singapore,

October 1st, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that in accordance with your instructions I embarked at 8 a.m. on 4th September last on H.M.S. "Rosario" (Commander Hamilton). Weighing anchor almost at once we steamed through the Rhio, Banka, and Sunda Straits, passing Java Head early on the night of 7th September. I have since been told that we had a fair passage, with wind and sea in our favour, from that point to the Cocos Islands, which we sighted about 11 a.m. on 10th September. Entering the lagoon by the Port Refuge Channel we anchored at 1.30 p.m. close to Direction Island.

2. Mr. George Clunies Ross, the proprietor, was unfortunately absent, having left the Islands in June in order to return to London for the performance of an operation on his eyes. Mr. Sidney Ross, his son and representative, met us by deputy (Mr. Andrew Ross, his uncle) and invited us to be his guests ashore. I landed in the afternoon and took up my residence in the bachelor quarters kindly placed at my disposal.

3. The thoroughness with which my predecessors have done their work leaves little for me to report which will not be but a vain repetition of what they have better described.

4. On 11th September, accompanied by Mr. Sidney Ross, I inspected the Bantam Village and the workshops. The morning I spent with Mr. William Ross and the books. In the afternoon I walked round Settlement Island visiting the village of the Cocos-born, its extension, the school, and the Bantam Village. On 12th September, Mr. Roland Ross sailed with me over to West Island over about half of which we walked. On my return I was ferried over to Burial Island. On 13th September, Mr. William Ross showed me over the stores (food, clothes, medicine, etc.) and the rest of the forenoon was passed in the school and in the village of the Cocos-born. At mid-day three of the latter sailed me to and from Direction Island in a boat provided by Mr. Ross; and the afternoon I spent with the villagers, mostly among the Bantamese.

5. The most superficial acquaintance with the Malays of the Straits makes it inevitable that one should be impressed with the material advantages conferred on the Islanders by their residence in the Cocos. Clean and well-ordered villages; comfortable and in a native style substantial houses, to which the owners have had to contribute only the labour of construction, and that merely in part; a plentiful supply of good water at their doors; an abundance of fish hardly further off; vegetables such as the sandy nature of the soil permits and their own diligence

encourages; wood for boat-building, firewood, coco-nuts, coco-nut oil, and coco-nut sugar, without charge; a regular demand for male and female labour with a by no means illiberal scale of wages; and immunity from all direct taxation combine to form external conditions of life which should breed contentment even in the Malay heart.

COCOS.
ISLANDS,
1901.

6. While struck no less than my predecessors by the presence at the Cocos of much that should ensure the happiness of Malay people, it was not borne home to me that the Islanders were to a man prepared to admit or even recognised their fortunate surroundings. Malays, like the Irish, are generally in possession of a small verbal grievance—most commonly the complaint of poverty—and are perhaps really the happier for it. Here I came across no trace of a Thimlay Doola's perverting influence among the people nor did I find discontent common, but I did come across one case of it (Appendix A.). And, with the exception of those about the currency, the difficulties of correspondence with the outside world and the want of facilities for education, all the complaints made to previous Commissioners were, I believe, made also to me (Appendix A.). I refrain, therefore, from writing in the usual unqualified terms of the contentment prevailing among the residents of the Cocos Islands.

7. Since the visit of the "Phoenix" the proprietor has received from Java but one batch of labourers (10 men, 11 women, and 2 boys), of a thoroughly unsatisfactory character. Recruited near Batavia, passed by a Government doctor, and shipped by Mr. Ross' agents in Batavia, they arrived in the Cocos in February, 1900, of poor physique and sickly (*see* the death returns), introducing with themselves venereal disease, which Mr. Ross hopes he has been able to stamp out. Believing that, as on a previous occasion, the persons passed as fit were not the persons shipped to him, he intends that in future one of the family shall always attend to the selection and shipment of the labourers. Anxious to obtain a further supply of labour, he is about to apply to the Netherlands Indies Government for permission to recruit, but will make the Bantam country once again the scene of his operations.

8. The proprietor would be glad to see such an increase in the population as would render the Islands independent of the outside labour market, but judging from the population return hereto attached (Appendix B), it will be long ere the attainment of this desire. In 1885, there were 516 souls on the Island. There are now 671, or 34 more than the Census return shows. From this, two little girls and one woman were omitted in error, and to its total should be added the 5 Europeans and 26 Chinese who have recently arrived on Direction Island. Taking account of permanent residents only, the males are in a minority of nearly 50. Mr. Andrew Ross says that at present the disparity in the numbers of the sexes has presented no difficulties, occurring as it does at very early ages. With all due deference to "

Cocos
Islands,
1901.

modern author who asserts it, he does not consider that females were formerly too few nor on the other hand that the superfluous woman problem is likely to require solution in the Cocos—as to the latter, figures are against him.

9. The present health of the people seems very good. There have been since September, 1899, one or two cases of beri-beri of a mild type, but no deaths from this cause. During our stay, I heard of one case of asthma (Mr. Charles Ross) and came across two or three persons who were being treated for sprains, cuts, etc., by Mr. Andrew Ross, and two men confined to their houses by minor ailments. The majority of the men looked hard and muscular, the women and children plump and cheerful, while among the latter I observed (on West Island) only one of those disfiguring skin diseases so obtrusively common in ordinary Malay villages. Goitre, however, is as common as ever, and Dr. Bolster, of the "Rosario," kindly prescribed in one case where the growth was causing discomfort by pressure on the wind-pipe. In the store there was a considerable supply of the medicines most commonly employed in the East, but occasion for their use is, Mr. Andrew Ross finds, infrequent. No medicinal remedy is, in his opinion, as efficacious against beri-beri as a change of locality, but he would like to try a more complete change of diet than is possible in the Cocos. He does not believe the origin of the disease is in the rice, either in its quality or in the absence of the silver thread, etc., and the main efforts of the family are directed to preventing its importation in the persons of new comers. The people concur that it is introduced and not native disease that attacks them.

Small-pox does not exist in the Cocos, but in view of the possibility of its introduction, vaccination is practised; perhaps a little spasmodically, as I understand the last successful inoculation was 1892. Since then the lymph used has for some reason or other been ineffective. The proprietor is sending out a fresh supply in the annual shipment of European goods, but as Mr. Andrew Ross has some 200 vaccinations which he would like to perform as soon as possible, an interim supply from the Straits would be very gratefully received.*

Where there is no specific disease (no fever, etc.), there is naturally no markedly unhealthy season, but the older Bantamese associate the months of September, January, and February, (when flies are most numerous) with sickness, and are to some extent supported by the figures which follow.

10. With an absence of definite illness it is disappointing to find a death-rate as high as 30.76 per 1,000 per annum, but this is what the 40 deaths, which have occurred since the visit of the "Phoenix," give in a population taken as 650 in each year. The victims were in 27 cases males, in 13 females, and of the 40 no less than 33 were infants of from a few days to a few months in age. The deaths occurred in January, 3; in February, 7;

* Since sent

March, 5; April, 2; May, 1; June, 1; July, 3; August, 4, September, 7; October, 3; November, 2; and December, 2. In Appendix C, I give such details as I could gather of the adults' deaths.

Cocos
ISLANDS,
1901.

11. In the last two years, 17 marriages have been registered, the contracting parties being in 11 cases Cocos-born on both sides, and in 6 Java-born.

There has been one divorce or separation of Java-born people. In this case the union had been childless, the man had lost his sight and was returning to Java, while the woman had perhaps already got on with a new love. In any case, within two days of the divorce she married again. This was this year, on the 1st of April, a date which the Western mind might not have regarded as auspicious for any contract.

12. In cultivation, no experiments and but few extensions have been recently made. In the main, planting has been directed to filling up the gaps caused by storms or beetles. By the former great damage was inflicted on two occasions in January this year, the trees on South Island (where it is supposed 11,000 trees were destroyed) and on the South of West Island being the greatest sufferers. On South Island both kinds of beetle again worked great havoc. In the belief that these breed in the tree itself and not in heaps of coco-nut refuse round it, the only remedy the proprietors apply is the drastic one of cutting down and burning the trees. On the Islands, 11 varieties of coco-nuts flourish, South Island producing the heaviest nuts and West Island the greatest number. Mr. Sidney Ross thinks that some 7,000,000 nuts are collected annually, and that the average yield from one tree is 25. The nuts, however, being allowed to fall and not being picked, as in the Straits, an accurate estimate per tree is impossible, but here a much higher figure than 25 is usually quoted, over 100 nuts per tree being, under favourable circumstances (proximity to human habitation, etc.), not uncommon. The pernicious—from a piscicultural point of view—practice of manuring the trees with immature fish does not obtain in the Cocos as it does in Province Wellesley.

13. Besides Settlement Island, West Island, and now Direction Island alone are permanently inhabited, but nuts are picked up on all except North Cocos, the difficulties of approach to which have for some years kept the nutters from it. On the centre of West Island I found 7 families, and 5 single Javanese engaged in preparation of copra. Their houses are less good than those on Selma where they have their real homes. Cats, ducks, pigeons, fowls, and children were numerous and healthy, but it was on one of the latter that I observed the skin disease referred to in paragraph 9. Except that a Java-born man who after 20 years had become a settler was dissatisfied with the delay in returning him to his country, whither he now wishes to go, none of these people complained of the conditions of their life, though in some aspects harder than those of the main-islanders. For the greater facility with which nuts can be got on West Island,

COCOS
ISLANDS,
1901.

a minimum of 2,500 per week is demanded from those who labour there as against 1,500 from those who reside further from the scene of their work; and the labour of the women as shellers is not paid as on the main island, but is taken to balance the proprietor's expense in transferring the nuts or copra to the main-island stores. Here there is storage for 80 tons of copra only, supplemented by stores for 110 tons at the north of the Island, where also Mr. Roland Ross has a poultry farm of some 1,500 fowls (mostly tailless), and a bungalow to which he resorts for the week end. On Horsburgh Island his brother has a similar but smaller establishment. On Direction Island, besides the Norwegian captain of the schooner "Tweed," are established Mr. Cameron and his four assistants in the Telegraph Company, with 26 Chinese serving in various capacities. In residence less than a month, they could perhaps hardly be called established, but they were daily employing their talents in new directions and seemed to enjoy it. An old copra shed lent by the proprietor had been converted into comfortable quarters, and their temporary office was almost ready against the arrival of the S.S. "Scotia," expected on 20th September with cable and instruments. At no distant date they were looking for the coming of the S.S. "Anglia" to complete the connection (with Mauritius), and to bring their staff up to 17, its complement as at present fixed. With abundant stores, sheep, ducks, fowls, etc., of their own, they are practically independent, and I gather that the proprietor does not desire more than mere social intercommunication between this and the other islands—against the Chinese the prejudice is very strong. At present their only water is procured from Horsburgh Island in Mr. Ross's water boats, but the "Scotia" is bringing condensers which will put an end to this inconvenience. Need for extra labour will not, I hope, arise, as I understand that (despite paragraph 2 V. of Commander Adam's report in 1885), a surplus supply of labour is not available, though Mr. Ross has managed to render considerable assistance in establishing the post. It will be interesting to observe how far the proximity of persons who do not come under the Cocos Settlement, and more frequent communication with the outside world through the periodic visits of telegraph ships, will influence Mr. Ross's people.

14. The rates and method of payment remain as previously described, nor is there any great variation in the wage bill month by month, somewhat less than 3,000 Cocos guilders being the average. Between the 1st January and the 1st September, 1900, the total earned came to 17,614f.* (Cocos), in the same period this year to 21,336f., the people having displayed rather more diligence in 1901. On the evening of the 13th September I examined the week's pay earned by a gang of 15 residents on the main Island—a random selection, as this was, probably is a

* The sign f signifies guilders. The Dutch guilder is worth about 1s. 8d. The Cocos currency guilder, which is a sheepskin note, is worth $\frac{2}{3}$ ths of a Dutch guilder.

COCOS
ISLANDS,
1901.

fair criterion of what all do and all earn. In the week the nuts delivered at the store numbered 40,733 (an average of 2,700 per man), the wages totalled 80f. 40 cents, an average of 5f. 30 cents per man, ranging from 6f. 75 cents to 4f. 25 cents—to which should be added one day's pay at the published day-pay rate if the men elect to put in a half day on Saturday. The nutting wage being 1f. per 500 nuts, and there being no smaller token than the 25 cents note, the proprietor gets the benefit of all nuts insufficient to earn this payment.

15. Of the Java-born, 15 have advances still to pay off, their total indebtedness coming to 1,430f. 25 cents, varying between 188f. and 10f. 50 cents a man, while the proprietor has had to write off as irrecoverable, 616f. 75 cents.

Seventeen of the Cocos-born are still in his debt, the most deeply so owing 125f. the least 2f. 25 cents, and the total amounting to 625f. Here, too, an item of 121f. has to be written off. Appendix D. gives details, with main causes of indebtedness.

16. I was unable to get the total standing to the credit of persons still at the Cocos, but the 9 Bantamese who have in the last two years returned to their country and the 3 Cocos-born who have settled in Java took away total savings of 1,807f., details of which are given in Appendix E.

17. Of crime, minor offences, and the punishments inflicted there is no record. Mr. Sidney Ross informs me that the former has not occurred and the last two have been infrequent. Where inflicted, punishment has been as heretofore corporal or by fine, following hot-foot on the offence where possible. The class of punishment most likely to be effective in each particular case is adopted. The fines range from 1 to 7 days' pay and the corporal punishment rarely exceeds 12 stripes, inflicted, in the case of adults, on the shoulders.

18. On both the occasions when I visited the school, the 5 boys shown on the register were in attendance. The eldest, Zanlay, having been there four years is more advanced than his school-mates, two of whom joined just before and two just after Mr. Baxendale's visit in 1899. The register shows on the part of the parents a more than Malay want of appreciation of the benefits of education, of which perhaps none but an elementary knowledge of arithmetic would appeal in a practical form to the Islanders. Under the circumstances the reading, writing, dictation, etc., of the 5 were creditable, and Zanlay knew a little general geography well; but to Cocos boys calculations in measures they do not employ, and the science of locating on the map places which to most of them are the merest of names and nothing more must appear singularly dull and profitless.

19. In 1900 no copra was exported. In January, 1901, the Norwegian ship "Michael Berentsen" was chartered to convey to Lisbon or St. Petersburg (according to the market) 862 tons,

Cocos,
Islands,
1901.

but the place of sale and the actual price obtained was not known. Between £13 and £14 per ton was expected, and the increased freight would almost eat up the profits held out apparently by the higher prices at the more distant market. Another 450 tons was in store ready for export. Mr. Ross does not think they can make more than 1,000 tons per annum.

20. Roughly, the last two years' imports have been :—

		f. Java.	Cents. Java
Rice	... 3,500 pikuls	= 19,250 or per lb.	4½
Sugar	... 10,000 lbs.	= 1,200 „	12
Flour	... 20,500 lbs.	= 1,200 „	6
Tea	... 320 lbs.	= 48 „	15
Tobacco	} 60 baskets	= 840 „	
Fine cut			

Cake-tobacco and cloth from England, also spices, etc., have been imported to meet the needs of the place, but no opium, deleterious drugs or intoxicants, except such wines and spirits as were required for the proprietor's own use.

In the store was a considerable quantity of materials, mostly shirtings, tobacco of both kinds, sugar, tea, flour, a very large supply of rock salt, and rice sufficient for four months' consumption.

21. At the store the retail prices charged for articles of common use are shown below under column (1), column (2) showing what I understand to be the purchase price wholesale in Batavia, and column (3) the Singapore retail prices.

Sale price at Cocos Store.	Purchase price in Batavia.	Purchase price in Singapore.
Rice per 12 lbs. = 1 f. Cocos <i>i.e.</i> per lb. 8 cts. = per lb. *7 cts. Java or *6 cts. Straits.	4½ cts. Java.	2½ cts. Straits.
Flour per 12 lbs. = 1 f. Cocos <i>i.e.</i> per lb. 8 cts. = per lb. *7 cts. Java or *6 cts. Straits.	*6 cts. „	6 cts. „
Sugar per 25 lbs. = 13 f. Cocos <i>i.e.</i> per lb. 52 cts. = per lb. 43¼ Java or 36¼ cts. Straits.	*12 cts. „	6 cts. „
Tea per 1 lb. = 1 f. Cocos <i>i.e.</i> per lb. 100 cts. = per lb. 83¼ Java or 70½ Straits.	15 cts. „	56 cts. „

* Signifies approximately.

The store prices reduced to Straits currency are much higher in the case of rice and sugar than those in column 3. The same in Java currency than those in column 2, except as regards flour, the difference between the purchase and sale price of tea (15 cents and 83½ cents) being so large that I think too low a purchase price must by mistake have been quoted.

Cocos
Islands,
1901.

22. Since their re-introduction some three years back, the small herd of goats has increased to 36, but the other importations, Christmas Island pigeons, ground-thrushes, etc., have at the best only maintained their numbers. The goats being, as the Direction Island sheep are, penned for the most part and artificially fed do not at present promise to provide an occasional variation to flesh diet open to the whole people.

Rats are combated as before without any marked diminution in their ravages. Their existence is perhaps facilitated by the coconut refuse lying about in heaps. This at least affords them nurseries, and, when dislodged from the tree-tops, temporary camps of refuge, while the dust and spines abounding in it punish many of the dogs, their pursuers, with blindness.

23. During my visit, immense shoals of young mullets were to be seen close in shore. Of the kitchens inspected, only one was without its string of sun-dried fish against a chance failure of the fresh article. The only two fishermen I saw landing had obtained in very short time catches of 9 lbs. and 21 lbs.—and generally fish is as abundantly plentiful as ever. Individual choice alone regulates the size of the mesh of the nets used, but it is hard to see how the act of man is in the Cocos likely to affect the fisheries very injuriously, especially when it is remembered that there is no use (as in the Straits) of immature fish. Nor do natural causes appear much more dangerous, Mr. Ross informing me that a peculiar periodic pollution of the sea which formerly had wide-spread effects is now much less frequent in its occurrence and far more confined in its operation. For the capture of all kinds of fish a harpoon with a self-closing barb (believed locally to be the invention of the proprietor) is largely used, and is the only weapon employed against sharks. The pursuit of the latter is as exciting as it is profitable, and only recently a boat was stove in by a wounded shark. Their solid value is in their oil, in their skins as a substitute for emery paper, and in their bodies as fertilizers. Many have been buried in Mr. Ross's garden.

Singapore, where on my return I found a common fish (*ikan parang*) selling on one of the best fishing grounds for 80 cents, cannot compare with the Cocos.

24. The strength of the prevailing winds and currents, the necessity for boats of suitable form and rigging, and the great value of the Ross family's local knowledge of channels, etc., are emphasized by the following incidents. Late in the evening of August 17th, the telegraph station tongkang, or Chinese lighter,

COCOS
ISLANDS,
1901.

returning under sail from the Island to the "Giang Ann" failed to make that vessel. Unable to beat up against the wind she drifted away astern, and Captain Follett, in the ship's boat, was unable to tow her back, nor could he rescue all her (4 European and 15 Chinese) passengers. Taking such as he could, and of compulsion leaving the rest adrift, he did not get back to the ship till 10 p.m., when darkness made steaming out after the lighter impossible. At day-break on 18th August, the "Giang Ann" piloted by Mr. Andrew Ross proceeded to the rescue, and about noon the missing men and the lighter were recovered some 16 miles out, a distance which was diminished by a contrary current setting them back towards the Cocos in the morning. Somewhat similarly, two Java-born started out one night in January in a boat which became at once beyond their control. After being carried out beyond Horsburgh Island they were on the following morning picked up by Mr. Andrew Ross.

It is the generally expressed opinion of the Islanders that the lagoon is shallowing all over, and Mr. Ross is convinced that the small shoals guarding the narrow entrance to Port Refuge are not now covered with the depth of water shown on the chart. Buoys at these points and at a leading mark on Workhouse Island would greatly simplify the navigation of this channel.

It was again impressed on the Commissioner that September was, as regards weather, the best month for his visit.

25. The construction of Mr. Ross's new house has gone on far, and the next trip of the "Tweed" bringing 31 tons of teak, should almost provide material for its completion.

The schooner named, and the yawl "Clunies Ross" still constitute the Cocos ocean-going fleet, but smaller craft, from life to surf boats, are countless, and Mr. Ross has four more (whalers, etc.) now in the yard in process of building.

26. Beyond the two storms referred to in paragraph 12, the meteorological readings tabulated in Appendix F. call for little comment. These readings are taken practically but once a day now, though on 15th and 29th January, 1901, the days of the cyclone and heavy storm, I found four and five readings. The variation of the first day was between 29.97 and 29.80 (Barom.) and 76—77 (Thermo.) with wind S.S.E., S., S.S.W., and S.W.; and on the second between 29.94 and 29.69 (Barom.) and 76—78 (Thermo.) with wind S.S.W., S.S.W., S.S.W., W., and N.W.

27. There is still no rain-gauge, likewise, except the telegraph flagstaff on Direction Island, no flagstaff. Commander Hamilton has suggested to me that the most suitable sites for signal stations are the North point of Horsburgh and the South point (near Burton Point) of West Island. None of the islands have any elevation. The proprietor would, I imagine, if only one station is formed, prefer that it should be on the best site for a signal station, i.e., Horsburgh Island. Being uninhabited, none of Mr. Ross's people could become unsettled by mixing with others.

living under different conditions, and their water supply would be near the signallers—advantages not offered by West Island. Telephonic communication between the station and Direction Island would be cheap and desirable.

COCOS
ISLANDS,
1901.

28. Before leaving I made known that I would arrange for the delivery of any letters which the people desired to send to or *via* Singapore, but was only entrusted with one, the addressee of which will, owing to insufficient description, be very difficult to find.

29. Information was freely given, boats provided, and their usual generous hospitality displayed by the Ross family. On my last night, Mrs. Ross kindly afforded such of the officers of the "Rosario" as could be present and myself the pleasure of witnessing a Cocos' ball. This consisted mainly of reels and country dances, taken part in by the Islanders, but omitted the more violent efforts, such as the "Hunting of the Fowl," etc., described by Mr. Leach and Mr. Farrer.

30. After an absence of rather less than three weeks, I arrived in Singapore on 21st September, and it only remains for me to record on paper my thanks to all whom I met on the trip, to my hosts and hostesses at the Cocos, to the officers of the "Rosario," and to Commander Hamilton for his unremitting attention to me both coming and going.

I have, &c.,

W. LANGHAM-CARTER,

*Acting-Collector of Land Revenue,
Singapore.*

Cocos
Islands,
1901.

APPENDIX A.

COMPLAINTS.

1. The stock complaint of poverty prefaced a good many of the people's conversations with me. Their conditions of life, paragraph 5, the savings of those who have recently left the islands, paragraph 16, and the wages paid, paragraph 14, are perhaps a sufficient comment on this.

2. Many of the women complained that they could get no clothes. External evidence was, I am glad to say, against them: They were in fact better dressed than the Malays one sees in the Straits, while I found in the store several cases of clothing, mostly shirtings, awaiting demand. Mr. Sidney Ross, however, told me that having exhausted their European stock of sarongs or native skirts, they were temporarily without a reserve of these, 600 ordered in Batavia to keep them going till the next shipment from Europe having failed to arrive.

3. The monotony of their daily diet was alleged to be irksome. Variation however must of necessity, in the Cocos, depend largely on the energy of the people themselves, displayed in the cultivation of vegetables, the breeding of fowls, &c. In this connection the prohibition of the import of gunpowder was quoted as rendering nugatory the possession of guns, (in many cases Mr. Ross' gift), and impossible all change of diet in the flesh of sea-fowl, &c. Through Mr. Sidney Ross I learnt that as a temporary measure, the introduction of gunpowder had been forbidden for some months. Not long before, a party of bird-shooters having with difficulty been rescued when outside the reef, it became necessary to veto the crossing of the reef by the fowlers. Another party had shortly afterwards disregarded the prohibition and similarly imperilled themselves. The ruling family had, therefore, temporarily stopped the supply of gun-powder as a punitive measure, and for the protection of the people themselves.

4. Want of shops, want of various articles (coffee, white sugar, white rice, &c.,) are probably another form of the complaint that the prices charged in Mr. Ross's store are excessive. In paragraph 21, I compare purchase and sale prices, also current Singapore prices. An explanation of high prices has been made by Mr. Birch and others.

5. Several persons, mostly Java-born, spoke to me of the difficulties in the way of leaving the islands for good, and one or two of the Cocos-born desired more frequent holiday trips to Batavia than they could get. Taking particular cases, the reasons for the continued presence at the Cocos of two Bantamese (Akas and Ali Basah), who with over 30 years' service had enrolled themselves as Cocos citizens, appeared on close enquiry to be in the one case a reluctance to leave without taking descendants (who were not anxious to go) to support him in Java, and in the other the absence of any savings to keep him alive elsewhere. The suggestion, however, that persons were detained against their will and without power of redress, was so particularly unpleasant that I referred to Mr. Sidney Ross for information as to the customs that governed leaving the Islands. He assured me that imported labourers were in no case detained beyond the expiry of their contract and the discharge of their debt (advances), and that Cocos-born had only to convince him that, with some definite work in view, they desired to settle permanently elsewhere. He was anxious that people should not leave merely in search of a job, for fear of their return later to the Cocos when less desirable as residents than before. After quoting the old Singapore—settled Cocos families and the men referred to in paragraph 16, he admitted that the constant employment of his ships in satisfying the general needs of the Islands, was frequently the cause of a considerable interval between the preferment of a request to leave and its satisfaction. A record of the date

of application to leave, of the reasons for refusal or postponement of granting of permission to leave, and the date of final despatch of applicant would at least be not uninteresting.

COCOS
ISLANDS,
1901.

6. A woman named Pun, one of the last imported, and her Bantamese husband Talip were distinctly unhappy—they had lost their first-born two days before my arrival; Talip was feeling rather overweighted with his wife's advance in addition to his own debt, and he had just been punished for disobedience, after warning, to an order. Pun complained that on enlistment no information was given her as to the kind of place the Cocos was nor of the cost of living, and that she came expecting to find small shops, long credit, &c., as in the vicinity of her native Batavia. Imported labourers still sign similar contracts to those described by Mr. Birch in 1885, and Mr. Trevenen in 1888; and though this matter more nearly concerns the Government of the Netherlands Indies whose subjects these people are, it is not undesirable that to the contract should be appended a note explaining some of the conditions of life peculiar to the Cocos—such as the necessity for procuring most articles of food and dress at the proprietor's store and at such prices (some of which might be quoted) as he finds possible. Misunderstandings on like points can only breed discontent.

7. It is significant that neither the teacher, who, besides being the most intelligent of the Islanders, has also lived elsewhere, nor the pensioner, who has had the longest experience of residence on the Cocos, had any complaints to make, though the former had the not uncommon desire for more holiday trips. Shortly, the real Cocos-born had little to complain of, while the Java-born struck me as less happy in their adopted country.

COCOS
ISLANDS,
1901.

APPENDIX B.

POPULATION OF THE COCOS ISLANDS, 11th SEPTEMBER, 1901.

Nationality.	Under 1 Year.		Under 2 Years.		Under 3 Years.		Under 4 Years.		Under 5 Years.		5 to 10 Years.		10 to 15 Years.		15 to 20 Years.		Over 20 Years.		Total.		Grand Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Europeans ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	7	—	7
Cocos Islanders ...	12	20	5	15	4	16*	7	7	15	21	43	37	25	40	30	32†	103	133	349	321	570
Bantamene ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45	23	45	23	68
Chinese ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	—	26	—	26
Other Races ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grand Total...	12	20	5	15	4	16	7	7	15	21	43	37	25	40	30	32	138	156	327	344	671

* Two omitted in Census Return.

† One omitted in Census Return.

APPENDIX C.

COCOS
ISLANDS—
1901.

DEATHS OF ADULTS.

Sadikin.—Cocos-born male, aged 27, on 11th February, 1900, of consumption.

Eleanor Syvertsen.—Daughter of Charles Ross, aged 28, on 4th June, 1901, the result apparently of child birth. After the birth of her child some twelve months earlier, she had never been well.

Musmor.—Cocos-born male, aged 29, on 5th February, 1901, of consumption.

Sali-in.—Javanese, male, arrived sickly in January 1900, and died on 3rd March that year, age at time of death and cause of latter not known.

Saran.—Javanese, male, as above, except that he died on 8th April.

Mahilon.—Bantamese, male, apparently about 50 years old. After completing several contracts, had married a Cocos-born woman and became a permanent settler. Died of general debility on 19th July, 1900.

Seipa.—Cape-born Malay, female, one of the earliest settlers, died on 1st December, 1899, of old age. Death accelerated by trouble with her one tooth gradually affecting her throat.

APPENDIX D.

INDEBTEDNESS.

Java-born.

	f.	cts.	
Jahari	66	75	advance as new cooly.
Awang	82	00	} advance to wife when new coolies.
Asan	82	25	
Masin	82	00	
Inang	188	00	} advance to self and wife, both new coolies.
Mian	66	00	
Madien	96	00	} advance as new cooly.
Mumang	96	00	
Outjien	177	25	} advance to self and wife as new coolies.
Stroditoroms	66	00	
Saliman	10	50	advance when new cooly.
Seman	137	50	} fresh advance on marriage of old cooly, and wife's advance.
Talip	122	00	
Sarion	123	50	} fresh advance on marriage of old cooly, and wife's advance.
Sostiko	34	50	
	1,430	25	

The 616 f. 75 cts. written off was in seven items, and the occasion was death except in one instance where a useless man owing 96 f. was returned to Java with a gift of 15 f.

**COCOS
ISLANDS,
1901.**

	f. cts.	
Akop	64 80	Advances to cover holidays, weddings, or funerals.
Jasidin	35 00	
Sulong	10 35	
Arsat	6 00	
Sakum	70 50	
Acmian	2 25	
Gilbert	4 75	
Amara	25 00	
Ackim	84 00	
Aidai	20 00	
Moss	4 50	
Aneer	126 00	
Jaman	59 30	
Rakebing	5 80	
Idit	60 00	
Wallace	30 00	
Demun	16 75	
Total	625 07	

The item
written off
was 121 f.
owed by
Musnor
deceased.

APPENDIX E.

SAVINGS.

Bantamese.

7th December, 1899, Panie	...	f330
7th December, 1899, Jamid	...	52
7th December, 1899, Aman	...	88
7th December, 1899, Arnle	...	222
8th October, 1900, Saleh	...	118
8th October, 1900, Miena	...	221
7th May, 1901, Abdul	...	77
7th May, 1901, Damin	...	254
7th May, 1901, Pongot	...	15 (gift)

Total... 1377=1377f.

Cocos-born.

(Planting at Anjer
under Captain Sem).

Kasimin	...	...	...	167
Nahimun	...	...	...	227
Humbi	...	...	...	36
Total...				430 = 430
				Grand Total 1777

APPENDIX F.

COCOS
ISLANDS,
1901.

METEOROLOGICAL READINGS.

Month.	Barometer.		Thermometer.	
	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.
September, 1899
October, "
November, "
December, "
January, 1900
February, "
March, "
April, "
May, "
June, "
July, "
August, "
September, "
October, "
November, "
December, "
January, 1901
February, "
March, "
April, "
May, "
June, "
July, "
August, "

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.
1902.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 370.

COCOS ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1902.

(For Report for 1901, *see* No. 352.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

November, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788 40.] Price 1d.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900-1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900-1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria... ..	1900
354	Bermuda	1901
355	Gambia	"
356	Falkland Islands	"
357	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
358	Malta	"
359	Gibraltar	"
360	Straits Settlements	"
361	Sierra Leone	"
362	British Honduras	"
363	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
364	Seychelles	"
365	Bahamas	1901-1902
366	Fiji... ..	1901
367	Ceylon	"
368	Barbados	1901-1902
369	Hong Kong	1901
	Jamaica	1901-1902

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
20	Wei Hai Wei... ..	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.

No. 370.

COCOS ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1901, see No. 352.)

GOVERNOR SIR F. A. SWETTENHAM to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Singapore,

13th September, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward copies of a Report by Mr. L. H. Clayton, District Officer, Christmas Island, who was deputed to pay the annual visit to the Cocos Islands.

2. The report shows that the Islands continue to prosper under the paternal rule of Mr. George Clunies-Ross, and that the people are on the whole well-to-do and contented. There are no new developments which call for special remarks.

I have, &c.,

F. A. SWETTENHAM.

REPORT ON VISIT TO COCOS-KEELING ISLANDS.

Christmas Island,

July 28th, 1902.

1. On Wednesday, July 9th, H.M.S. "Vestal" arrived at Christmas Island and according to instructions I left in her for the Cocos-Keeling Islands at 6 p.m. the same day.

2. We had a fair passage and arrived at our destination on Friday, July 11th, at 6 p.m., when Mr. George Clunies-Ross came on board and the ship was under his direction anchored in the inner harbour.

3. Mr. Ross kindly invited me to stay with him and I took advantage of his offer, landing on the following morning and spending the remainder of the day in conversation with him and inspecting the Cocos and Bantamese villages. I have nothing to add to what has been stated in former reports as to the excellent condition of these villages. The Cocos-born people are tidier and more attractive than the Bantamese, and, in the same way, the village of the former presents a better appearance, but in neither case did I see anything to call for adverse comment.

4. On Sunday I visited Direction Island, a portion of which has been leased to the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company. There are resident there at present in temporary buildings Mr. Cameron and 9 European assistants, with 14 Chinese servants and 4 Malay boatmen. In addition to these there are 3 Europeans and 39 Chinese engaged on the erection of permanent buildings for the staff. Eight or nine houses of various sizes will be required, and I should imagine it will be over a year before the staff are finally settled down. The chief difficulty that they have encountered has, I understand, been the lack of water. No water is obtainable on Direction Island, and at first they were supplied from the other Islands by boat. A condenser has now been erected, and as the buildings are completed water will be collected from the roofs. The yearly rainfall is almost certainly over 80 inches.

5. There has been a good deal of beri-beri among the Chinese workmen employed by the Telegraph Company. Four have died and several more have been sent back to Singapore, two dying on the voyage. I understand that it has been decided to send back whenever opportunity occurs all those showing signs of beri-beri to Singapore. I had a conversation with the Chinese and they expressed themselves as quite contented and said that they were well-treated in every way. A trifling complaint about the renewal of their stock of opium was easily arranged.

near Direction Island left for Christmas Island, which was reached on the morning of Wednesday, July 23rd.

30. I append particulars of the population of the Islands and also extracts from barometrical readings taken daily by Mr. Sidney Ross at 6 a.m.

31. Throughout my stay, which was a day or two longer than that of recent commissioners, the most generous hospitality was extended to me by Mr. and Mrs. Ross, and every facility was granted me for making enquiries and conversing with the natives. I desire to express my warmest thanks to them for their kindness, and also to Commander MacHutchin and the officers of H.M.S. "Vestal" for their attention to me while on board.

L. H. CLAYTON,
District Officer, Christmas Island.

POPULATION OF THE COCOS ISLANDS, 16th July, 1902.

Nationality.	Under 1 year.		Under 2 years.		Under 3 years.		Under 4 years.		Under 5 years.		5 to 10 years.		10 to 15 years.		15 to 20 years.		Over 20 years.		Total.		Grand Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
CLUNIES BOSS COMMUNITY.																						
Europeans	18	26	4	14	—	3	15	—	6	7	14	21	—	—	25	38	—	—	2	126	240	310
Cocos Islanders	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	51	57	19	550
Bantamese	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	76
Total	18	26	4	14	—	3	15	—	6	7	14	21	—	—	25	38	27	34	155	299	329	628
EASTERN EXTENSION TELEGRAPH COMMUNITY.																						
Europeans	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13
Chinese	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	53
Malays	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	70

Total population of the Cocos-Keeling Islands, 698.

COCOS ISLANDS, 1902.

BAROMETER.

Taken daily at 6 a.m.

Month.					Maximum.	Minimum.
September, 1901	...	...	...	...	30·08	30·00
October	"	...	...	...	30·07	29·97
November	"	...	...	...	30·10	29·96
December	"	...	...	...	30·03	29·88
January, 1902	...	...	...	...	29·94	29·69
February	"	...	...	...	30·07	29·91
March	"	...	...	...	30·00	28·90
April	"	...	...	...	30·03	29·87
May	"	...	...	...	30·04	29·94
June	"	...	...	...	30·08	29·91

Readings taken during the Cyclone of March 4th, 1902.

Date.	Time.		Barometer.	Direction of wind.
March 3rd	...	6. a.m.	29·91	—
March 4th	...	6.10 a.m.	29·83	S.W.
		8.30 a.m.	29·76	S.
		10.10 a.m.	29·28	S.
		10.40 a.m.	28·90	E.
		11.5 a.m.	28·92	E.N.E. } Cyclone
		11.50 a.m.	29·48	N.
		1.35 p.m.	29·58	N.
		3 p.m.	29·64	N.
March 5th	...	6 a.m.	29·78	N.E.
		8 a.m.	30·00	—

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.
1902.

6. A medical man, Dr. Curtis, has been engaged by the Telegraph Company, and he arrived there a few months ago. Previous to his arrival cases of illness were diagnosed and treated by telegraph from Perth, Western Australia.

7. Monday I spent in looking through the books, stores and registers with Mr. William Ross. Since the date of the last report there have been 24 births and 21 deaths, of which latter 11 were those of infants. These figures include the Chinese on Direction Island. The birth and death-rate of the inhabitants exclusive of the employés of the Telegraph Company works out at 38 and 22 per mille per annum respectively (approximate in both cases). Thirteen marriages have been registered during the year, and no divorces. In two cases the couples were imported Bantamese. Nineteen Bantamese were recruited from Java during the year, and four left for their own country with their wives and families. The amounts taken back by these men were *f. 20, f. 93, f. 183 and f. 155, respectively, and they had lived on the Islands for periods ranging from 7 to 11 years.

8. One of the Bantamese complained that he wished to leave but was not allowed to do so. I found by the books that he had paid off his own debt (f. 96) easily in about two years, and had immediately married a woman with a debt of f. 96. He had not yet paid this off, and he admitted that he had been told before his marriage that he would have to do so.

9. I looked over the wages bill for the past week and came to the conclusion that a labourer can easily earn wages sufficient to keep him in comfort with a considerable balance for emergencies.

10. Beyond trivial offences there has been no crime on the Islands during the last year. There have, however, been one or two cases of suspected incendiarism. In no case has it been found possible to detect the culprit, and only slight damage has been caused. The alarm bell was rung at 11 p.m. on one night of my stay for a fire and I immediately accompanied Mr. Ross to investigate. The fire had, however, been extinguished before our arrival by the neighbours.

11. The general health of the Cocos people and Bantamese has been good, and Dr. Curtis, who by arrangement attends to them as well as to the Telegraph employés, informed me that with the exception of a case of yaws, now recovered, there had been very little occasion for his services since his arrival. He had, however, vaccinated some 80 of the natives. I was in no way surprised to hear that he thought very highly of the sanitary condition of the villages. I found only one case of beri-beri, a Bantamese, who had according to his own account been ill for three years. He was able to get about and do light work.

* COLONIAL OFFICE NOTE.—The sign "f" signifies guilders. The Dutch guilder is worth about 1s. 8d. The Cocos currency guilder, which is a sheep-skin note, is worth $\frac{2}{3}$ ths of a Dutch guilder.

12. I visited the school and found four scholars, all of whom were able to read and write and do simple arithmetic. Rajeli, the schoolmaster, admitted that boys who had passed through the school derived very little subsequent advantage from the knowledge they had acquired, and that is no doubt the case so long as they remain on the Islands. As has been stated in former reports, Mr. Ross looks with a somewhat unfavourable eye upon education for his dependents, as he thinks that the effect produced is far from good. As I pointed out to him, even if he is right in that opinion he has no cause for anxiety as the large majority of the inhabitants appear to share his views.

13. In order to avoid the necessity of chartering ships to take the copra away, Mr. Ross has recently purchased a sailing vessel—the "Broughton," a barque of 571 tons register. The only shipment of copra made in the past year was one of 706 tons sent to Europe by this vessel in May last. The quality of the Cocos copra appears to be as high as ever, as this shipment fetched the excellent price of £18 5s. per ton, the highest figure reached for some years. There have been no other exports. About 190 tons of copra were in store ready for shipment, and I was told that 15 tons were produced in an average week's work.

14. The Islands have again suffered from a cyclone, the severest since 1862. It occurred on March 4th last, and the news of it reached Mr. Ross at Singapore on his return from Europe in April. At the date of my visit, although work had been going on for four months in setting the place to right, the signs of it were visible on all sides. Five houses were destroyed, with fortunately no loss of life, and many thousands of coco-nut trees were uprooted or broken. It was strange to see how, in places, notably on Direction Island, a lane seemed to have been ploughed right through the trees, leaving hardly one in five standing. In addition to this nearly all the fruit trees were destroyed, and Mrs. Ross had her garden completely wrecked. The loss in capital to Mr. Ross must be very great. I fancy, however, that the number of coco-nut trees still left is considerably greater than can be worked with the labour at his disposal.

15. I visited West Island on Tuesday in company with Mr. Sidney Ross. Eleven families of Bantamese live there. Some of the men were out at work, but I saw all the women. They had a great deal to say for themselves and gave a graphic account how at the worst part of the recent cyclone everybody had run into the lagoon and stood up to their necks in water as the only place safe from the falling trees. They complained as usual about their clothes but seemed otherwise contented. The lagoon here, as in other places, is said to be rapidly filling up.

16. On Thursday a party of bluejackets and marines landed from H.M.S. "Vestal" and carried out a small sham fight, which

was watched with great interest by nearly the whole population dressed out in their best. I share Mr. Carter's opinion, as given in last year's report, that the difficulty of obtaining nice clothes is obviously not insuperable. A sailing race was also held for prizes given by Commander MacHutchin, and the winners had their choice of a piece of serge or a pair of substantial boots as prizes. The serge was chosen as the men explained that boots were of no use except to dance in.

17. On Friday, the ship left for North Keeling with Mr. Ross on board. We reached the Island at about 5 p.m. and anchored for the night. Next morning I landed with Mr. Ross in a surf boat with a Cocos crew brought for the purpose, and a party of officers and sailors also went on shore.

18. This Island has only once been visited (1893) by a man-of-war, and in that year Mr. Ross decided not to continue working it. No one had in consequence set foot there for nine years. Under the circumstances I was surprised to find that the undergrowth was not particularly thick and that we had little difficulty in getting about. The house formerly occupied by Mr. Ross was standing, although of course out of repair. The stock of food left in case of a shipwreck had not been touched and the well was in good order.

19. Only slight damage had been done by the cyclone, and Mr. Ross decided after inspection to work the island again in October.

20. Every tree and bush is covered with the nests of frigate-birds, boobys, gannets, terns, &c. The birds are quite tame and have no fear of man. The white tern, to my mind the prettiest of all, is most inquisitive and numbers of them kept fluttering round our heads. Mr. Ross showed us one of this bird's eggs *in situ*. It had been laid so as to rest between two ribs of a coco-nut leaf, and was so placed that the swaying of the leaf in the wind did not shake it off. There was no nest of any kind.

21. I walked over most of the island with Mr. Ross and there was no sign of visit by any ship, while the thousands of birds on every side were a continual delight.

22. During my stay at the Cocos very few complaints were made to me, and those chiefly by the women. Poverty and the high prices charged at Mr. Ross's store were the principal grievances, but it did not seem to me that there was much foundation for them.

23. The total value of the local currency notes in the hands of the natives at the time of my visit was f. 702 Cocos currency. It has been stated that the amount of the currency held by each man is registered. This is not the case, and no restriction is placed upon the buying and selling of articles between the

natives. I could not therefore understand, although I had a conversation with Mr. Ross on the subject, how it was that the use of the local currency notes prevented gambling and stealing. I am inclined to think that it is the smallness of the amount of currency in circulation (an average of f. 2 Cocos to every individual over 15), together with the intimate knowledge of the circumstances of every man on the islands possessed by Messrs. George and William Ross that acts as a check upon the natives rather than the absence of ordinary metallic currency.

24. If a man wishes to save money he does not save the currency notes but his pay-bills which are made out to him by name and can be kept for any length of time. These are of course all registered and non-transferable, so that loss by fire, theft, &c., is impossible. So far as I could gather, however, it appeared that the saving of pay-bills was the exception rather than the rule, as the people prefer to invest their surplus money in furniture, clothes, jewellery, &c. Consequently they are not so likely to desire to leave the islands as loss would be suffered in disposing of their property. It is, I fancy, to still further discourage departure that the rule has been made that local currency is only payable in Batavia after a deduction of one sixth.

25. Mr. Ross told me that he had already detected among his people signs of restlessness owing to the presence of the employés of the Telegraph Company. I cannot say, however, that I observed any indication of it.

26. It has been proposed to establish a Lloyds Signal Station at the Cocos, but beyond the erection of a flagstaff on Direction Island nothing has so far been done.

27. The extraordinary influence exercised by Mr. Ross over the natives and the wonderful success of his administration made a great impression upon me as it has done on former commissioners, and I am confident that so long as the present proprietor retains his health there need be no fear that justice will not be fairly and evenly administered or that the welfare of the inhabitants will not be properly attended to. So long, moreover, as the conditions of life are as favourable as they are at present, I do not think that any complaint can be made if every legitimate inducement is held out to natives to remain there.

28. Mr. Charles Ross and his family left the Islands in June and the members of the Ross family now resident are Mr. and Mrs. George Clunies-Ross, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Clunies-Ross, Mr. Sidney Clunies-Ross, Mr. William Clunies-Ross and Mr. and Mrs. Edmond Clunies-Ross.

29. We returned from North Keeling Island on Saturday, July 19th, and after dropping Mr. Ross and his native crew

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 334.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1900.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 291.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty
October, 1901.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN

1901.

[Cd. 788-4.] Price 1½d.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
311	St. Lucia... ..	1899
312	St. Vincent	"
313	Basutoland	1899-1900
314	Hong Kong	1899
315	Southern Nigeria	1899-1900
316	Grenada	1899
317	Jamaica	1899-1900
318	British Guiana	"
319	Christmas Island	1900
320	British Solomon Islands	1899-1900
321	Lagos	1900
322	Bermuda... ..	"
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados... ..	"
327	Bahamas... ..	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia... ..	"
333	Seychelles	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand... ..	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas... ..	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific... ..	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla... ..	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas... ..	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.

No. 334.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS
1900.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1899, see No. 291.)

GOVERNOR GREY WILSON to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,

Stanley,

16th August, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1900, together with the Colonial Secretary's Report thereon.

I have, &c.,

W. GREY WILSON,

Governor.

REPORT ON FALKLAND ISLANDS BLUE BOOK FOR
THE YEAR 1900.

FINANCIAL.

The Revenue in 1900 amounted to £15,576, and the Expenditure to £15,502.

c9945*—75—9/1901 Wt 25152 D & S—5

A 2

FALKLAND
ISLANDS
1900.

2. The following are the details compared with the previous year:—

REVENUE.

	1899.	1900.
Customs	£ 3,185	£ 5,613
Port dues, &c.	253	152
Licences, &c.	578	671
Fees	556	512
Post office	1,198	832
Rents	4,953	4,995
Miscellaneous	181	260
Interest on investments	2,315	2,475
Overpayments recovered	—	66
Totals	13,219	15,576

EXPENDITURE.

	1899.	1900.
Pensions	£ 223	£ 223
Governor	1,427	1,452
Colonial Secretary	1,344	1,239
Customs	145	98
Audit	20	17
Port and marine	258	149
Legal	334	427
Police	468	497
Carried forward	4,219	4,102

EXPENDITURE—*continued*.FALKLAND
ISLANDS
1900

		1899.	1900
		£	£
Brought forward	... ..	4,219	4,102
Prisons	... ..	236	309
Medical	... ..	621	601
Education	... ..	608	636
Ecclesiastical	... ..	467	455
Transport	... ..	83	314
Miscellaneous...	... ..	628	599
Post Office	... ..	3,077	2,991
Public Works...	... ..	1,485	1,743
Public Works Extraordinary	... ..	165	1,885
Colonial Engineer	... ..	797	784
Interest, Savings Bank	... ..	1,093	1,082
Drawbacks	... ..	—	1
Total	... ..	13,479	15,502

3. A comparative statement of the total Revenue and Expenditure for the past five years is appended:—

	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue	12,358	12,969	13,039	13,219	15,576
Expenditure	13,569	13,636	14,278	13,479*	15,502
	— 1,211	— 667	— 1,239	— 260	+ 74

* The Expenditure was returned in the Report for 1899 at £13,314. A sum of £164 spent on Public Works Extraordinary seems, by some error, to have been omitted.

4. The revenue was the highest yet raised, exceeding that of the previous year by £2,357, and the average annual receipts of the five years 1896-1900 by £2,144.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1900.

Customs Duties, Port and Harbour Dues, and Licences realized £6,436, or £2,020 more than 1899. This gives an average raised by taxation of £3 13s. 2d. per head, as against £2 5s. 8d. in the previous year. The export tax on wool, sheep skins, &c., first imposed in 1899, produced during 1900 £1,038.

The Postal Revenue did not come up to the estimate. Under the new contract with the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, the subsidy is borne equally by the Colony and Imperial Government, and so the revenue which before was credited entirely to the Colony is now shared with the General Post Office.

5. The expenditure was greater by £2,023 than that of the previous year, and by £1,589 than the average of the five years 1896-1900, yet there was a small surplus of £74. The increased expenditure was due to Public Works Extraordinary, under which head appears the cost of the somewhat extensive and still uncompleted additions to Government House, amounting to £1,885, for which no provision was made in the Estimates.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

6. The Assets on 31st December, 1900, were £75,510, the Liabilities £79,257, giving an excess of the latter amounting to £3,415.

7. The financial position of the Colony at the end of each of the last ten years is set forth in the Table sub-joined:—

Year.	Assets, Surplus of.	Assets, Deficiency of.
	£	£
1891	1,271	—
1892	1,610	—
1893	1,540	—
1894	1,041	—
1895	392	—
1896	—	1,043
1897	—	1,761
1898	—	2,918
1899	—	3,143
1900	—	3,415*

* Stores in hand ceased to be treated as an asset.

INVESTED FUNDS.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1900.

8. The invested funds during the five years 1896-1900 were as follows:—

Fund.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
Land Sales ...	16,933	18,504	20,304	23,046	24,233
Savings Bank ...	34,222	33,042	41,901	43,401	44,401
Intestate Estates	542	555	568	582	597
Surplus... ..	1,441*	2,893*	—	—	—
Notes	—	—	—	333	333
Totals ...	53,138	54,994	62,773	67,362	69,614

* There was actually a deficit, the Savings Bank being £6,400 short invested.

CURRENCY.

9. The introduction of the currency notes to which allusion was made in the Report for 1899 has continued to meet a long felt want. During the year £500 worth of £5, and £500 worth of £1 notes, were issued, making a total of £1,000 worth of each denomination in circulation.

A supply of 5s. notes, designed more particularly to meet the needs of the country districts, was ordered from England, but none were put into circulation during the year.

TRADE AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

10. The value of imports was £66,948, and of exports £111,539. The imports show a decrease as compared with 1899 of £7,030, and the exports a decrease of £20,664.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1900.

11. The following are the details of the imports. The Customs statistics have not hitherto been kept in the manner suggested in the Report of the Committee appointed to enquire into the compilation of import and export statistics in the Colonies, dated 23rd June, 1891, but an attempt has been made in the subjoined table to so classify them. In the current year, and in future, the recommendations of the Committee will be followed.

Imports.

	1899.	1900.
	£	£
1. LIVE ANIMALS, FOOD AND DRINK, AND NARCOTICS.		
Aerated waters	—	60
Dip (for sheep)	1,448	455
Drugs	—	394
Fruit and vegetables... ..	349	4,861*
Groceries and general provisions	18,433	13,378
Live stock	2,536*	1,176
Malt liquors	2,128	3,700
Seeds	—	162
Spirits	4,001	5,188
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	2,141	1,808
Wine	462	1,360
Totals	31,498	32,542
2. RAW MATERIAL.		
(a) <i>Textile</i>	—	—
(b) <i>Metals and minerals.</i>		
Coal	4,207	3,696
(c) <i>Other</i>	—	—
Totals	4,207	3,696
Carried forward	35,705	36,238

* Includes fodder.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

9

Imports—continued.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1900.

	1899.	1900
Brought forward	£ 35,705	£ 36,238
3. MANUFACTURED ARTICLES.		
(a) <i>Textile.</i>		
Ship chandlery*	5,681	4,381
Haberdashery... ..	3,765	1,679
Wearing apparel, boots and shoes, &c.	8,799	6,158
Totals	18,245	12,218
(b) <i>Metals and minerals.</i>		
Hardware and machinery	6,131	5,974
(c) <i>Other.</i>		
Furniture	1,484	1,176
Glass and earthenware	371	380
Timber and building material ...	5,113	3,324
Totals	6,968	4,880
4. COIN AND BULLION.		
Specie	1,630	1,700
Goods imported from Crown Agents and not classified.	—	1,298
Parcel Post... ..	2,534	3,265
Unenumerated	2,765	1,375
Grand Totals	73,978	66,948

* Includes fencing, bagging, &c., imported for the country districts.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1900.

12. The quantities of the staple products of the Colony exported in 1900 were as follows, as compared with the previous year:—

Exports.

	1899.		1900.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
Wool	4,823,458	118,961	4,600,000	95,833
Tallow	485,173	4,125	221,766	2,500
	No.		No.	
Sheepskins	83,592	10,389	41,000	4,202
Live stock	14,188	2,858	13,319	2,627
Hides	1,406	1,248	977	977
Sealskins	580	800	707	1,500
Hair, horns, bones	—	50	—	—
Totals	—	138,431	—	107,439

13. The totals of imports and exports for the five years 1896-1900 are as follows:—

	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports... ..	69,985	63,286	72,987	73,978	67,948
Exports... ..	132,194	126,505	106,984	132,203	111,539
Totals	202,179	189,791	179,971	213,181	179,487

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

14. The United Kingdom is credited with nearly 90 per cent. of the imports and nearly 95 per cent. of the exports. The balance was distributed between Chile, Argentina, and Uruguay

PASTORAL INDUSTRY.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1900.

15. There was no re-appearance of scab during the year. The estimated number of sheep on the farms is 778,026.

As compared with the previous year, there was a decrease in the estimated number of sheep amounting to about 1,885, due, the Chief Inspector of Stock reports, to the exportation from the West Falklands of cull ewes to Patagonia, and to the fact that the farmers on the East boiled down more sheep than usual. The lambing was most satisfactory, and was much better than was expected after the severe winter. The wool clip was also better than in the previous season, and farmers took more care with regard to selection and culling.

16. Some small patches of land were sown with grass seed with satisfactory results. The cocksfoot did well, especially on hard ground, and the Stock Inspector considers it a better grass, both for pasturage and stock, than the Italian rye, while the former will stand burning, which the latter will not.

17. The year was one of depression in the wool trade. After a rapid rise, prices suddenly fell, and are still falling. It is difficult to understand the cause of this state of things; probably it was due to over-speculation, and, perhaps, also to the immensely increased consumption of cotton, which can be grown so cheaply.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1900.

SHIPPING.

Flag.	Inwards.						Outwards.					
	Steam.			Sailing.			Steam.			Sailing.		
	1899.		1900.	1899.	1900.	Tonnage.	1899.	1900.	Tonnage.	1899.	1900.	Tonnage.
	28	31	29	17	77,262	76,404	27	31	24	22	67,700	87,900
American ...	—	—	3	3	6,452	3,504	—	—	2	2	4,243	3,401
British ...	1	14	11	3	14,787	42,837	1	13	10	7	12,671	47,787
Chilian ...	9	5	7	7	3,386	2,373	9	5	7	5	3,356	1,725
Danish ...	—	—	1	—	947	—	—	—	—	1	—	947
Dutch ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	276	—
French ...	—	—	1	—	602	—	—	—	1	—	602	—
German ...	18	11	1	2	46,506	24,222	17	12	1	3	43,657	28,765
Norwegian ...	—	—	5	2	4,582	968	—	—	3	4	3,171	2,775
Italian ...	—	1	—	—	—	2,500	—	1	—	—	—	2,500
Totals ...	28	31	29	17	77,262	76,404	27	31	24	22	67,700	87,900

19. The following is a comparative statement of the total shipping, inwards and outwards, for the five years 1896-1900:—

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1900.

Year.	Inwards.				Outwards.			
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Tonnage.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Tonnage.
1896 ...	22	22	43	56,296	21	19	40	53,371
1897 ...	25	17	42	54,144	25	16	41	53,796
1898 ...	33	13	46	62,131	33	11	44	62,016
1899 ...	28	29	57	77,262	27	24	51	67,700
1900 ...	31	17	48	76,404	31	22	53	87,900

20. During the first half of the year, the mail service was carried out by the German Kosmos Company, of Hamburg; during the second by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, with which a contract has been entered into by the Imperial Government. These steamers provide a four-weekly service, touching at Rio and Montevideo, and proceeding to Punta Arenas and Valparaiso, on the outward voyage, and *vice versa*.

During the early part of the year, the islands were visited by H.M.S. Flora (Commodore Groome), H.M.S. Pegasus, and H.M.S. Swallow, and, in December, by H.M.S. Flora and H.M.S. Basilisk.

21. During the year six vessels put into the port in distress. Of these, three (two American and one British) required repairs owing to damage sustained from heavy weather off Cape Horn; one, a Chilian vessel, had a cargo of coke and sulphuric acid carried in iron drums. The acid had eaten through the drums, and had, consequently, all leaked out. The drums were packed in chalk, and the sulphuric acid acted chemically on this, forming carbonic acid gas. During the voyage the hatches blew off. Eventually, most of the acid remained at the bottom of the ship and damaged the iron frames so seriously that she could not continue her voyage. Another barque, a German, put in on account of an outbreak of beri-beri, to which disease four of the crew had succumbed. The last, a British ship, put in with cargo of coals heated.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1900.

A steam tug, fitted with salvage pumps, was imported by the Falkland Islands Company to be in readiness to render assistance to disabled vessels.

LEGISLATION.

22. Six Ordinances were passed during the year. By Ordinance No. 1, of 16th January, the import duty on beer in cask was raised from 3*d.* to 4*d.* per gallon, and on beer in bottle from 6*d.* per dozen quarts and 3*d.* per dozen pints to 1*s.* and 6*d.* respectively. By Ordinance No. 6, of 24th December, the duty on beer in cask was further increased to 6*d.* per gallon, to equalise it with that on beer in bottle, and the duty on spirits was raised from 10*s.* to 12*s.* per gallon. The former Ordinance also imposed export duties as follows:—Wool, per pound, 1/20th of a penny; Sheep skins, each, ½*d.*; living sheep, each, ½*d.*; and hides, each, 3*d.*

A most useful Ordinance (No. 3, of 22nd May) was passed relating to the promulgation and construction of Ordinances, the law in force in the Colony, and certain general rules of law and procedure.

The law with regard to aliens, destitute immigrants, and the naturalization of foreign subjects was consolidated and amended (No. 5, of 27th July).

A Divorce Court was established in the Falkland Islands by Her Majesty's Order in Council of 28th November, 1899, and the Supreme Court has now jurisdiction to pronounce decrees of judicial separation and dissolution of marriage.

A Proclamation, of 16th August, prohibited the importation of cattle and sheep from South America on account of the prevalence there of animal disease, and a Proclamation, of 2nd October, declared that all alfalfa (pressed hay) imported from Argentina or Uruguay should be destroyed on landing, for the same reason.

EDUCATION.

23. The Government Senior and Infant Schools, and the Roman Catholic School in Stanley, were at work during the year, and the attendance was fairly well kept up.

The Falkland Islands Company maintains a School at Darwin, taught by Mr. A. Moir, M.A., a trained master. There is also an itinerant teacher.

On the West Islands, one Government itinerant teacher was at work all the year; a second teacher arrived in May and took up duty at once.

There is no doubt that the institution of these travelling masters has been of immense benefit to the children, and is much appreciated by the people.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1900.

SAVINGS BANK.

24. The capital of the bank still continues to increase. On 30th September, 1900, it was £44,401, as against £44,323 in the previous year. There were 351 depositors, giving an average of £126 10s. standing to the credit of each account, or about £22 per head of the population. The income earned by the bank during the year was £1,455, and the expenses incurred were £1,090, leaving a profit of £365.

The bank was established in 1888. At the end of 1889 there were 92 depositors, and the balance was £15,139. Since then the number of depositors and the balances have steadily increased.

PRISON STATISTICS.

25. There is little worth remarking upon under this head. Almost all the prisoners were received from Her Majesty's ships on charges of breaches of discipline, &c., or from merchant vessels on similar charges.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

26.

—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Number of offences reported to Police	40	53	46	38	61
Number of Summary Convictions—					
1. For offences against the person...	8	11	7	11	5
2. " " property	4	6	8	3	4
3. For other offences ...	14	27	28	24	47
Number of Supreme Court Convictions—					
1. For offences against the person...	—	—	—	1	1
2. " " property	—	2	—	—	—
3. For other offences ...	—	—	—	1	1
Number of Acquittals—					
1. In Inferior Courts ...	10	7	3	4	3
2 In Supreme Court ...	4	—	—	—	—

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1900.

27. There was one murder during the year, the perpetrator of which was duly tried and convicted, and suffered the extreme penalty.

VITAL STATISTICS.

28. Sixty-one births and 16 deaths were registered during the year; six marriages were solemnized.

In 1891 the population was found, by census, to be 1,789; at the census taken on the 31st of March last, it was found to have risen to 2,043, an increase of 254, of which 222 represents the increase in the town of Stanley alone.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

29. From the Report of the Colonial Surgeon, it appears that the health of the Colony was very satisfactory, and there was an entire immunity from contagious or infectious disease.

Unfortunately, there is no hospital, but a project for the establishment of such an institution is under consideration.

The services of a trained nurse would also be of the greatest advantage, but the residents have not yet availed themselves of the facilities offered by the Colonial Nursing Association in this direction. It is to be hoped that the people will co-operate to supply this very obvious need in the near future.

CLIMATE.

30. There are, as was reported last year, hardly any materials on which to report on the climate of the Colony. Certain records are taken at the lighthouse for transmission to the Board of Trade. No copy of these for the first half of the year appears to have been retained. During the latter half the mean monthly temperature was as follows:—

July	...	...	...	...	34·95
August	...	...	...	...	38·45
September	...	...	...	...	41·32
October	...	...	...	...	43·47
November	...	...	...	...	44·38
December	...	...	...	...	44·26

RAINFALL.

Stanley, November	...	...	...	3·055
„ December	...	...	...	2·58

POSTAL, &c.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1900.

31. The revenue was £832, as against £1,198 in 1899 and £1,159 in 1898. The expenditure was £2,991 (including £2,500 subsidy), as against £3,082 in 1899 and £3,045 in 1898.

The money orders issued in the Colony on the United Kingdom amounted to £6,742, as against £6,314 in 1899 and £4,677 in 1898.

The sale of postage stamps fell off considerably. It amounted to only £536, as against £1,025 in 1899 and £816 in 1898.

Telegraphic communications are received by post from Montevideo.

The only telephone is one from the lighthouse to Stanley, seven miles. It had been out of order for years, but communication was re-established during the year under review, only, unfortunately, to be again soon interrupted. It is now under repair.

POSTAL STATISTICS.

	Posted.			Delivered.			Internal.	Total.
	U.K.	Other places.	Total.	U.K.	Other places.	Total.		
Letters, Postcards }	11,160	925	12,085	13,841	2,830	16,671	2,591	31,347
Newspapers, Books, &c. }	150	50	200	33,461	2,000	35,461	300	35,961
Parcels ...	350	50	400	1,400	125	1,525	35	1,960
Total 1900	11,660	1,025	12,685	48,702	4,955	53,657	2,926	69,268
Total 1899	13,350	3,505	16,855	48,500	6,950	55,450	3,900	76,205
Total 1898	10,166	3,700	13,866	40,039	3,000	43,039	4,300	61,205

MILITARY.

33. The strength of the Volunteer Rifle Corps, the only local force, was, at the end of the year, three officers and 93 non-commissioned officers and men, an increase of ten. The Capitation Grant was £88. Owing to their occupations many of the

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1900.

members cannot attend drills as often as is desirable. Their shooting is, generally, good. The Corps would be more popular if it had a recreation room of its own, and if more prizes were offered for competition at the range.

The range itself is very badly placed. It is hoped that if the naval range is transferred to the other side of the harbour, as has been suggested, the volunteers may acquire the present naval range.

34. A beginning was made during the year on the new naval coaling depôt, on the north side of the harbour, under the superintendence of Mr. G. P. Hayes, C.E., of the Admiralty. For this work it has been necessary to import labour, the existing supply being insufficient, or inefficient, or both, and some 100 labourers were brought from Argentina, all Italians or Austrians.

GENERAL.

35. The year may be said, generally, to have been fairly prosperous, except for the fall in the price of the staple product of the country—wool. The price of labour ruled high, perhaps higher than it should, and the large savings bank deposits and money order remittances testify to the well-being of the people.

36. The rates of wages are about as follows:—

Shepherds—£60 to £72 a year, with free lodging, horses, and mutton.

Labourers—£6 to £7 a month, or, if on daily pay, 8*d.* an hour and 1*s.* an hour.

Boys in training—£3 to £5 a month.

Shearers—15*s.* per 100 sheep.

Shipwrights—1*s.* an hour, and 16*s.* 4*d.* a day for ship-work.

Joiners—1*s.* an hour, and 16*s.* 4*d.* a day for ship-work.

Blacksmiths—1*s.* an hour, and 16*s.* 4*d.* a day for ship-work.

Sailmakers—1*s.* an hour, and 10*s.* a day for ship-work.

Stonemasons—1*s.* an hour, and 10*s.* a day for ship-work.

Mariners on Coasting Trade—£5 a month.

Domestic Servants—30*s.* to 40*s.* a month.

37. The labour market cannot be said to be over-stocked, and the Admiralty have found it necessary to import Italian labourers from Argentina for work on the coaling depôt. Some owners of property also import Italian labour, on short contracts, for sheep-shearing.

Families do not settle here to the extent they used to do, and men migrate to Patagonia, where there is a greater field.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1900.

38. The prices of produce are about as follows:—

Horses	...	...	...	£5 to £20.
Cattle	...	...	...	£1 to £5.
Sheep	...	...	...	4s. to 7s.
Wool	...	...	...	4d. to 6d.

39. The average prices of the main articles of consumption are:—

Wheaten Flour, per bag of 100 lbs.—18s.
 Wheaten Bread, per lb.—2½d.
 Milk, fresh, per quart—8d. to 1s. (The supply is limited.)
 Butter, per lb.—2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d.
 Beef, per lb.—5d.
 Mutton, per lb.—2d.
 All other articles from 50 per cent. to 100 per cent. above English prices.

40. The town of Stanley is over-populated, but there is little attempt to build new houses. At the moment of writing, there is not a house available for love or money. Building should prove a remunerative investment.

41. Were there more houses and a good hotel, and if the Pacific Company could be induced to lower their rates of passage money between the Colony and Montevideo, it is probable that many residents of the latter place, or of Buenos Aires, would visit Stanley in the summer months for health purposes. The fares are, at present, First Class, £14 to £16; return, a fare and a half. Second Class, £10; return, double fare; and the voyage only takes four days.

W. HART BENNETT,

Colonial Secretary.

Stanley,
Falkland Islands,
1st August, 1901.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD, 34-40, BACON STREET, E.
1901.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 356.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1901.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 334.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty
July, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-26.] *Price 1½d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
330	Straits Settlements	1900
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
336	British New Guinea	1899-1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar	"
343	Basutoland	1900-1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	"
346	Northern Nigeria	1900-1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900-1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900-1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900
354	Bermuda	1901
355	Gambia	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.

No. 356.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1901.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 334.)

ACTING GOVERNOR BENNETT to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,

Stanley,

22nd May, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit my Report on the Blue Book for the year ended 31st December, 1901.

I have, &c.,

W. HART BENNETT,

Administrator.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1901.

REPORT ON FALKLAND ISLANDS BLUE BOOK
FOR THE YEAR 1901.

I.—FINANCIAL.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The revenue in 1901 was £15,476, and the expenditure £17,639. .

2. The following are the details compared with 1900:—

REVENUE.

	1900.	1901.
	£	£
Customs	5,613	5,663
Port dues, &c.	152	95
Licences, &c.	671	519
Fees	512	487
Post office	832	1,136
Rents	4,995	4,990
Miscellaneous	260	235
Interest on investments	2,475	2,351
Totals	15,510*	15,476

* These figures differ from those given in the report for 1900 as a sum of £66—overpayments recovered—has been struck out.

EXPENDITURE.

	1900.	1901.
	£	£
Pensions	223	223
Governor	1,452	1,467
Colonial Secretary	1,239	1,356
Carried forward	2,914	3,046

EXPENDITURE—*continued.*FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1901.

	1900.	1901.
Brought forward	£ 2,914	£ 3,046
Customs	98	25
Audit	17	15
Port and Marine	149	128
Legal	427	376
Police	309	255
Medical	601	593
Education	632*	636
Ecclesiastical	455	469
Transport	314	465
Miscellaneous... ..	588*	701
Post Office	2,991	4,267
Public Works... ..	1,691*	1,916
Public Works Extraordinary	1,885	2,273
Colonial Engineer	784	660
Interest, &c., Savings Bank... ..	1,082	1,156
Drawbacks	1	62
Total	15,435*	17,639

3. A comparative statement of the total revenue and expenditure for the last five years is subjoined:—

	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Revenue ...	£ 12,969	£ 13,039	£ 13,219	£ 15,510	£ 15,476
Expenditure ...	13,636	14,278	13,479†	15,435	17,639
	— 667	— 1,239	— 260	+ 75	— 2,163

* These figures differ from those given in the report for 1900 as a sum of £66 overpayments recovered has been deducted from the Expenditure under the proper subheads.

† Erroneously returned in Report for 1899 at £13,314.

FAKELAND
ISLANDS,
1901.

4. The revenue in 1900 was the highest yet raised; that in 1901 was only £34 less, and exceeded the average annual receipts of the five years, 1897-1901, by a sum of £1,423.

Customs duties, port and harbour dues, and licences realized £6,277, or £159 less than in 1900. This gives an average raised by taxation of £3 1s. 6d. per head, as against £3 13s. 2d. in the previous year. The export tax on wool, sheep-skins, &c., first imposed in 1899, produced during 1901 £1,116, or £78 more than in 1900.

The postal revenue was £1,137, or £119 less than the estimate, as against £832 in 1900.

5. The expenditure was greater by £2,204 than that of 1900, and by £2,826 than the annual average of the five years, 1897-1901. The increased expenditure was due mainly to Public Works Extraordinary, under which head appears the cost of the uncompleted additions to Government House, amounting to £2,273, for which only £1,200 was provided in the estimates, and to Post Office, the payment of the subsidy of £1,250 for the latter half of the year having been made before the close of the year, instead of, as heretofore, six months later.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

6. The assets on 31st December, 1901, were £75,637, and the liabilities £79,863, giving an excess of the latter amounting to £4,226.

7. The financial position of the Colony at the end of the last ten years is set forth in the following table:—

Year.	Assets, Surplus of.	Liabilities, Surplus of.
	£	£
1892	1,610	—
1893	1,540	—
1894	1,041	—
1895	392	—
1896	—	1,043
1897	—	1,761
1898	—	2,918
1899	—	3,143
1900	—	3,415*
1901	—	4,226

* Stores in hand ceased to be treated as an asset.

INVESTED FUNDS.

8. The invested funds during the five years, 1897-1901, were as follows:—

FAKLAND
ISLANDS,
1901.

Fund.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
Land Sales ...	18,504	20,304	23,046	24,233	26,407
Savings Bank ...	33,042	41,901	43,401	44,401	46,744
Intestate Estates	555	568	582	597	560
Surplus... ..	2,893*	—	—	—	—
Notes	—	—	333	333	1,600
Totals ...	54,994	62,773	67,362	69,614	75,311

* There was actually a deficit, the Savings Bank being £6,400 short invested.

CURRENCY.

9. The result of the issue of currency notes justifies their introduction. During the year £500 worth of £5, and £500 worth of £1 notes were issued, making a total of £1,500 worth of each denomination in circulation.

Some five-shilling notes, designed to meet the wants of the country districts, were put into circulation, but they do not find favour among the people, and quickly return to the Treasury.

II.—TRADE AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

10. The value of imports was £74,765, and of exports £108,294, not including £2,000 specie. The former shows an increase, as compared with 1900, of £7,817, and the latter a decrease of £3,245.

11. The following are the details of the imports:—

Imports.

	1900.	1901.
	£	£
1. LIVE ANIMALS, FOOD AND DRINK, AND NARCOTICS.		
Aerated waters	60	285
Dip (for sheep)	455	—
Carried forward	515	285

12150

A 4

FAKELAND
ISLANDS,
1901.

Imports—continued.

	1900.	1901.
Brought forward	£ 515	£ 285
Drugs	394	452
Fodder, corn, hay, &c.	—*	2,154
Fruit and vegetables... ..	4,861	1,479
Groceries, &c	13,378	15,961
Live stock	1,176	486
Malt liquor	3,700	2,789
Seeds	162	—
Spirits	5,188	3,286
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	1,808	2,510
Wine	1,360	467
Totals	32,542	29,869
2. RAW MATERIALS.		
(a) <i>Textile</i>	—	—
(b) <i>Metals and minerals.</i>		
Coal	3,696	4,404
(c) <i>Other</i>	—	—
Totals	3,696	4,404
MANUFACTURED ARTICLES.		
(a) <i>Textile.</i>		
Ship chandlery†	4,381	788
Haberdashery... ..	1,679	3,376
Wearing apparel, boots and shoes, &c.	6,158	9,157
Totals	12,218	13,321
(b) <i>Metals and minerals.</i>		
Hardware and machinery	5,974	8,680
Carried forward	54,430	56,274

* Included in fruit, &c.

† Includes bagging, &c., imported for country districts.

*Imports—continued.*FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1901.

	1900.	1901
Brought forward	£ 54,430	£ 56,274
(c) <i>Other.</i>		
Furniture	1,176	1,731
Glass and earthenware	380	861
Timber and building material	3,324	8,462
Totals	4,880	11,054
4. COIN AND BULLION.		
Specie	1,700	—
Goods imported from Crown Agents and not classified.	1,298	1,733
Parcels Post	3,265	4,112
Unenumerated	1,375	1,592
Grand Totals	66,948	74,765

12. The quantities and value of the staple products of the Colony exported in 1901 were as follows, as compared with the previous year:—

Exports.

	1900.		1901.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Wool*	Lbs. 4,341,180	£ 95,833	Lbs. 4,373,340	£ 89,029
Tallow	221,766	2,500	560,000	4,666
Sheepskins†	No. 46,494	4,202	No. 95,410	9,366
Live stock	13,319	2,627	202	100
Hides	977	977	406	350
Sealskins	707	1,500	900	1,800
Totals	—	107,639	—	105,311

* Incorrectly given in Report for 1900 as 4,600,000.

† Ditto ditto 41,000.

FAKLAND
ISLANDS,
1901.

13. The totals of imports and exports for the five years, 1897-1901, are as follows:—

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Imports... ..	£ 63,286	£ 72,987	£ 73,978	£ 66,948	£ 74,765
Exports... ..	126,505	106,984	132,203	111,539	110,294*
Totals... ..	189,791	179,971	213,181	178,487	185,059

* Including £2,000 specie.

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

14. The United Kingdom is credited with 90·5 per cent. of the imports, and nearly all the exports. The balance was distributed between Chile, Argentina, and Uruguay.

PASTORAL INDUSTRY.

15. There was no appearance of scab during the year.

16. The estimated number of sheep on the farms was 762,357, a decrease on 1900 of about 1,699, due, the Stock Inspector reports, to the exportation of rams to Patagonia and to boiling down. The lambing was again most satisfactory, the average being about 70 per cent. The wool clip was better than in the previous season, and farmers took more care with regard to selection and culling. The year was, however, one of continued depression in the wool trade, and prices in the English market were very low.

17. The grass-seed growing experiments were not so satisfactory as they might have been, owing, the Stock Inspector thinks, to want of interest on the part of many of the farmers.

SHIPPING.

18. The following are the shipping statistics :—

Flag.	Inwards.						Outwards.					
	Steam.		Sailing.		Tonnage.		Steam.		Sailing.		Tonnage.	
	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.
American ...	—	—	3	—	3,504	—	—	—	2	—	3,401	—
British ...	14	30	3	3	42,837	92,095	13	30	7	3	47,787	92,095
Chilian ...	5	—	7	3	2,373	372	5	—	5	2	1,725	228
Danish ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	947	—
French ...	—	—	—	2	—	3,307	—	—	—	1	—	1,731
German ...	11	1	2	—	24,222	168	12	1	3	—	28,765	168
Norwegian ...	—	2	2	2	968	1,378	—	1	4	2	2,775	1,203
Italian ...	1	—	—	—	2,500	—	1	—	—	—	2,500	—
Russian ...	—	—	—	1	—	558	—	—	—	1	—	558
Totals ...	31	33	17	11	76,404	97,878	31	32	22	9	87,900	96,011

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1901.

FAKLAND
ISLANDS,
1901.

19. The following is a comparative statement of the total shipping, inwards and outwards, for the five years, 1897-1901:—

Year.	Inwards.				Outwards.			
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Tonnage.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Tonnage.
1897 ...	25	17	42	54,144	25	16	41	53,796
1898 ...	33	13	46	62,131	33	11	44	62,016
1899 ...	28	29	57	77,262	27	24	51	67,700
1900 ...	31	17	48	76,404	31	22	53	87,900
1901 ...	33	11	44	97,878	32	9	41	96,011

20. The mail service is carried out by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, with which a contract was made by the Imperial Government in 1900. These steamers provide a four-weekly service from Liverpool, touching at Rio de Janeiro and Montevideo, and proceeding to Punta Arenas and Valparaiso, on the outward voyage, and *vice versa*. The increase in the total tonnage is due to these steamers being larger than those of the Kosmos Line which previously carried the mails.

21. The Norwegian steamship "Antarctic" called at Port Stanley on her way to the antarctic regions on a voyage of discovery. She landed her exploring party, under Professor Nordenskiöld, at the winter station and returned to Stanley, leaving again, on 1st January, 1902, for South Georgia.

During the year the Islands were visited by H.M.S. "Flora" (Commodore Groome), and by H.M.S. "Sappho," "Basilisk," and "Nymphe," of the South-east Coast of South America Squadron, also by the U.S. cruiser "Atlanta."

22. The following were the shipping casualties during the year:—

A French ship with a cargo of nickel ore from New Caledonia for Glasgow put in in a leaky condition. She had met with heavy weather, and her cargo had shifted. She was fitted with a more powerful pump, and 1,500 tons of cargo were discharged and ultimately taken to its destination by another steamer.

The British barquentine "Thetis" sailed for Salvadore on 27th July, and was lost, on or about 3rd August, in one of the heaviest gales known for many years past. All lives were lost.

Another French ship with coal from Shields for Chile put in in October badly on fire. She had to be practically sunk, and was afterwards floated and anchored in a position of safety.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1901.

III.—LEGISLATION.

23. Ten Ordinances were passed during the year.

A useful Summary Jurisdiction Ordinance (No. 2) was passed attempting to codify the many Ordinances on the subject. The Ordinance is in course of revision and amplification.

The various Scab Ordinances were consolidated (No. 6) under the short title of "The Live Stock Ordinance."

Certain important alterations were made in the Licensing Ordinance by No. 8 of 1901, and the Probate and Unrepresented Estates Ordinance were consolidated in No. 9 of 1901. This Ordinance contains two important alterations:—one, that a will partly written and partly printed may be used; the other, that real estate passing on a death is, as in the United Kingdom, to be charged with duty in the Falklands.

IV.—EDUCATION.

24. The Government Senior and Infant Schools, and the Roman Catholic School in Stanley were open all the year, and the attendance was well kept up.

The Falkland Islands Company continued to maintain their School at Darwin.

On the West Falkland two Government Travelling Masters were at work most of the year, and the question of appointing a Travelling Master for the North Camps of the East Falkland is under consideration.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

SAVINGS BANK.

25. On the 30th September, 1901 (the end of the Bank year), the capital was £50,236, as against £44,401 on 30th September, 1900. There were 379 depositors, giving an average of £132 11s. standing to the credit of each account, or about £24 11s. 9d. per head of the population.

The income earned by the Bank during the year was £1,472, and the expenses incurred £1,170, leaving a profit of £302.

**FAKLAND
ISLANDS,
1901.**

The Bank, which was established in 1888, had, on 30th September, 1889, 92 depositors, and a balance of £15,139.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

PRISON STATISTICS.

26. Nearly all the few prisoners were, as usual, received from His Majesty's ships or merchant vessels on charges of discipline, &c.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

27. The following table summarizes the criminal statistics for five years:—

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Number of offences reported to Police	53	46	38	61	34
Number of Summary Convictions—					
1. For offences against the person...	11	7	11	5	5
2. " " property	6	8	3	4	3
3. For other offences 	27	28	24	47	22
Number of Supreme Court Convictions—					
1. For offences against the person...	—	—	1	1	1
2. " " property	2	—	—	—	—
3. For other offences 	—	—	1	1	—
Number of Acquittals—					
1. In Inferior Courts 	7	3	4	3	3
2. In Supreme Court 	—	—	—	—	—

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

28. Sixty-eight births and fifteen deaths (not including eleven drowned) were registered during the year.

In 1891, the population was 1,789; in 1901, 2,043; an increase of 254, of which 222 represents the increase in the town of Stanley alone. The estimated population on 31st December, 1901, was 2,076.

The birth-rate per 1,000 was 33·28; the death-rate was 7·34.

**FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1901.**

PUBLIC HEALTH.

29. The Colonial Surgeon reports the health of the Colony to be very satisfactory, and there was no infectious or contagious disease.

There is no hospital, but it is understood that the Admiralty have under consideration the question of the establishment of such an institution.

The trained nurse, to whom allusion was made in the report for 1900, arrived after the close of the year with which this report deals.

CLIMATE.

30. There are still but scanty statistics available. The following mean monthly readings are taken from the records kept at Cape Pembroke Lighthouse:—

January	...	...	...	...	54·5
February	...	...	...	...	55·2
March	...	...	...	...	55·9
April	...	...	...	...	48·7
May	...	...	...	...	46·3
June	...	...	...	...	41·7
July	...	...	...	...	39·2
August	...	...	...	...	43·2
September	...	...	...	...	46·2
October	...	...	...	...	50·6
November	...	...	...	...	54·4
December	...	...	...	...	55·5

A comet of peculiar brilliancy was visible for a considerable period in August.

VIII.—POSTAL SERVICE.

31. The revenue was £1,137, as against £832 in 1900. The expenditure was £4,267 (including £3,866, mail subsidy, *see* par. 5), as against £2,901 in 1900.

The money orders issued in the Colony on the United Kingdom amounted to £9,870, as against £6,742 in 1900.

The sale of postage stamps realized £907, as against £536 in 1900.

**FAKLAND
ISLANDS,
1901.**

Telegraphic communications are received by post from Montevideo.

The telephone from Stanley to the lighthouse was in working order during the latter part of the year.

32. The following are the postal statistics :—

POSTAL STATISTICS.

	Posted.			Delivered.			Internal.	Total.
	U.K.	Other places.	Total.	U.K.	Other places.	Total.		
Letters, Postcards }	10,423	5,928	16,351	14,644	2,813	17,457	750	34,558
Newspapers, Books, &c. }	1,234	707	1,941	30,129	1,241	31,370	—	33,311
Parcels ...	224	5	229	2,188	—	2,188	—	2,417
Total 1901	11,881	6,640	18,521	46,961	4,054	51,015	750	70,286
Total 1900	11,660	1,025	12,685	48,702	4,955	53,657	2,926	69,268

IX.—NAVAL AND MILITARY.

33. The volunteer rifle corps numbered three officers and 97 non-commissioned officers and men, the capitation grant earned was £100. The corps made considerable strides in numbers and efficiency under the able instruction of Sergeant-major Watt, who arrived from England in the early part of the year. On account of their occupations many men cannot attend drills as often as is desirable. Their shooting is generally good, and during the year the War Office presented the corps with two 2·5 field guns and 100 Lee-Enfield rifles, in place of the old Martini-Henrys.

A recreation room and canteen, the need for which was pointed out in my report for 1900, has now been established.

The range is very badly placed, but the Admiralty have kindly agreed to hand the present naval range over to the Colonial Government when the new one is completed.

34. Work was actively continued on the naval coaling depôt under the superintendence of Mr. Geo. P. Hayes of the Admiralty.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1901.

X.—GENERAL.

35. The year was fairly prosperous, except for the continued low price of wool. The very large Savings Bank deposits and money order remittances testify to the general well-being of the people.

36. The rate of wages are about as follows:—

Shepherds—£60 to £72 a year, with free lodging, horse, and mutton.

Labourers—£6 to £7 a month, or, if on daily pay, 8*d.* an hour, and 1*s.* an hour overtime.

Boys in training—£3 to £5 a month.

Shearers—15*s.* per 100 sheep.

Shipwrights—1*s.* an hour; 16*s.* 4*d.* a day for ship work.

Joiners—1*s.* an hour; 16*s.* 4*d.* a day for ship work.

Blacksmiths—1*s.* an hour; 10*s.* a day for ship work.

Stonemasons—1*s.* an hour; 10*s.* a day for ship work.

Mariners, on coasting trade—£5 a month.

Domestic servants—30*s.* to 40*s.* a month.

37. The labour market cannot be said to be over-stocked, and the Admiralty import Italian and Austrian labourers from Argentina for work on the naval depôt. Some farmers also import Italian shearers on contract work.

38. The prices of stock and produce are about as follows:—

Horses—£5 to £20; average £14.

Cattle—£1 to £5; average £2.

Sheep—4*s.* to 7*s.*; average 5*s.*

Wool—4*d.* to 6*d.*

39. The average prices for main articles of consumption are:—

Wheaten Flour—Per bag of 100 lbs., 18*s.*

Wheaten Bread—Per lb., 2½*d.*

Milk, fresh—Per quart, 8*d.* to 1*s.* (the supply is limited).

Butter—Per lb., 2*s.* 3*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*

Beef—Per lb., 5*d.*

Mutton—Per lb., 2*d.*

All other articles from 50 per cent. to 100 per cent. above English prices.

**FALKLAND
ISLANDS,
1901.**

40. Were there more houses and a good hotel in Stanley, and if the Pacific Company could be induced to lower their rates of passage money between the Colony and Montevideo, it is probable that many residents of the latter place, or of Buenos Aires, would visit Stanley in the summer months as a health resort. The fares are at present—first class, £14 to £16; return, a fare and a half; second class, £10; return, double fare; and the voyage only takes four days.

W. HART BENNETT,
Administrator.

Government House, Stanley,
Falkland Islands, 22nd May, 1902.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 331.

F I J I .

REPORT FOR 1900.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 296.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September 1901.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1901.

[Cd. 788-1.] Price 1½d.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
307	Ceylon	1899
308	Leeward Islands	"
309	St. Helena	"
310	British Honduras	"
311	St. Lucia... ..	"
312	St. Vincent	"
313	Basutoland	1899-1900
314	Hong Kong	1899
315	Southern Nigeria	1899-1900
316	Grenada	1899
317	Jamaica	1899-1900
318	British Guiana	"
319	Christmas Island	1900
320	British Solomon Islands	1899-1900
321	Lagos	1900
322	Bermuda... ..	"
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados	"
327	Bahamas... ..	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand... ..	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas... ..	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific... ..	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas... ..	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.

No. 331.

Fiji,
1900.

FIJI.

(For Report for 1899. *see* No 296.)

GOVERNOR SIR G. T. M. O'BRIEN to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,

Suva, Fiji,

18th June, 1901.

SIR,

I have the honour to state that seven copies of the Fiji Blue Book, for the year 1900, are being forwarded to you per book post by this mail, and to enclose copy of a report thereon by Mr. Allardyce, the Assistant Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

G. T. M. O'BRIEN,

Governor.

Fiji,
1900.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR 1900.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1900.

I. FINANCIAL.

A.—General Revenue and Expenditure.

The following statement shows the amount of Revenue received, under the various heads, for the years 1900 and 1899:—

Head of Revenue.	1900.	1899.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	65,932 11 5	52,631 7 0
Port, Wharfage, and Lighthouse Dues	4,785 13 4	4,221 3 5
Native Taxes	19,295 3 6	20 767 11 6
Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue, not otherwise classified.	8,646 12 3	7,889 4 5
Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimburse- ments in aid.	8,325 4 7	8,351 11 11
Post Office	2,679 10 2	2,547 2 6
Rent of Government Property ...	491 2 9	577 1 3
Interest	177 16 4	300 0 0
Miscellaneous Receipts... ..	1,209 19 2	1,058 13 8
	111,543 13 6	98,343 15 8
Land Sales and Premia on Leases ...	25 4 3	277 12 0
Total £	111,568 17 9	98,621 7 8

The following is a statement of the Expenditure for the years 1900 and 1899, under the various heads:—

FIG. 1,
1900.

Head of Expenditure.	1900.	1899.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Charges on Account of Public Debt ...	9,301 10 1	9,281 5 1
Pensions	2,195 17 8	2,020 7 0
The Governor and Legislature ...	2,713 16 4	2,673 14 7
Colonial Secretary's Department ...	1,450 6 6	1,419 5 6
Government Printing Office	1,510 9 2	1,529 6 8
Audit Department	682 5 11	688 6 7
Postal Department	1,192 3 1	2,045 17 6
Provincial Department	7,425 8 4	7,556 0 11
Treasury	3,540 2 6	3,560 4 6
Customs Department	2,916 6 0	2,716 5 11
Port and Marine Department	1,877 7 11	1,599 8 1
Immigration Department	7,223 13 4	6,669 3 7
Judicial and Legal Departments ...	8,608 17 6	8,677 16 3
Police Department	2,956 1 7	2,918 4 4
Armed Native Constabulary	2,315 1 10	2,436 10 7
Prisons Department	3,763 17 6	3,759 11 4
Medical Department	5,697 19 11	4,706 19 3
Hospital and Lunatic Asylum ...	2,716 4 4	2,935 11 6
Education	1,359 8 9	1,603 12 5
Transport	1,492 13 3	1,295 6 4
Transport—Special Repairs	—	1,068 7 5
Miscellaneous	5,905 3 9	1,683 19 1
Lands, Works, and Survey Department	1,652 11 7	1,749 13 0
Public Works, Annually Recurrent ...	2,371 16 6	1,889 10 1
	80,874 3 4	76,484 7 6
Public Works, Extraordinary ...	19,148 4 2	11,083 5 8
Deposit for Expenditure, 1900—Public Works.	—	7,000 0 0
Deposit for Expenditure, 1900—Contribution to Transvaal War	—	1,000 0 0
	100,022 7 6	95,567 13 2

FIJI,
1900.

The total Revenue and Expenditure during each of the past five years is shown in the following statement:—

Year.			Revenue.			Expenditure.		
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1896	...	...	73,868	18	9	73,099	3	1
1897	...	...	74,491	16	1	73,231	11	0
1898	...	...	94,146	15	6	87,594	8	6
1899	...	...	98,621	7	8	95,567	13	2
1900	...	...	111,568	17	9	100,022	7	6

The Revenue for 1900, £111,568 17s. 9d., stands as a record. The only previous year in which the Revenue exceeded £100,000 was 1883, when it amounted to £105,586. In that year, however, certain casual receipts were included, amounting in all to £14,702. The actual Revenue, therefore, only amounted to £90,884.

The principal increase in the Revenue is under the head of Customs, and is due to improvement in trade.

C.—*Assets and Liabilities.*

The statement of the Assets and Liabilities of the Colony at 31st December, 1900, shows that on that date the excess of Assets over Liabilities, or the accumulated surplus to the credit of the Colony, amounted to £32,642 13s. 4d.

D.—*Public Debt.*

The Public Debt of the Colony at 31st December, 1900, amounted to £200,535 16s. 6d. Of this amount, £94,435 16s. 6d. is an advance, without interest, from Imperial Funds, which is being repaid at the rate of £1,040 5s. 1d. per annum. The remainder consists of £106,100 Debentures, bearing interest at 4½ per cent. A sum of £1,500 per annum is applied to the redemption of these Debentures. The interest on Debentures as redeemed is applied to the further reduction of the debt. During 1900 the Public Debt was reduced by £4,540 5s. 1d.

E.—Currency.**Fiji,
1900.**

The legal tender currency, and the only coin in circulation, is British sterling. The amount of coin in circulation is estimated at £70,000. There is no Government note issue. The Bank of New Zealand has two branches in the Colony, at Suva and Levuka.

F.—Municipal Revenue and Expenditure.

The following statements show the Revenue and Expenditure, during the last five years, of the Suva and Levuka Town Boards and the Suva and Levuka School Boards:—

Year.	Suva Town Board.		Levuka Town Board.	
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£
1896 ...	1,680	1,506	1,238	1,129
1897 ...	1,509	1,662	879	995
1898 ...	1,603	1,600	980	976
1899 ...	1,710	1,639	1,511	1,511
1900 ...	1,644	1,529	1,627	1,606

Year.	Suva School Board.		Levuka School Board.	
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£
1896 ...	719	678	552	567
1897 ...	729	694	581	591
1898 ...	726	722	542	520
1899 ...	759	716	548	560
1900 ...	719	681	559	557

G.—Debts of Municipalities.

The Municipal Boards have no power to borrow money.

Fiji,
1900.

II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

A.—Imports and Exports.

The following statement shows the value of the principal items of import during the past two years:—

Nature of Import.	1899.	1900.
	£	£
Bacon and hams	1,303	1,523
Bags and sugar-mats	7,424	8,586
Beer	2,905	3,240
Books	1,080	1,051
Boots and shoes	3,549	4,185
Breadstuffs and biscuits	17,553	21,902
Butter and ghee	4,279	5,982
Coal	10,082	8,802
Cordage	1,724	2,278
Cutlery	1,640	3,019
Drapery	55,082	67,257
Drugs	2,770	4,121
Fish	2,908	2,787
Furniture	1,660	2,727
Galvanised iron and goods	7,080	11,823
Glassware and crockery	1,571	2,459
Hardware	13,916	23,277
Iron—bar, rod, sheet, rails, and pipes	8,012	10,385
Jewellery	1,628	2,236
Leatherware	2,007	3,328
Live stock	8,292	23,358

A.—Imports and Exports.—cont.

Fiji,
1900.

Nature of Import.	1899.	1900.
	£	£
Machinery	15,477	7,996
Machinery—agricultural	2,068	2,976
Manure	3,574	4,678
Meats	9,699	11,901
Oils	7,365	10,075
Pickles and oilstores	515	694
Paints	1,856	2,349
Produce	609	1,173
Rice	6,041	9,245
Ship chandlery	1,405	2,888
Soap	724	833
Spirits	3,837	4,535
Stationery	2,241	3,049
Sugar	2,456	1,503
Timber	5,402	15,234
Tobacco	2,356	2,703
Vegetables and green fruit	2,323	2,966
Wines	1,458	2,080
Woodenware	901	1,564

Most of the items in the above list show increases over the year 1899, notably breadstuffs and biscuits, £4,349; drapery, £12,175; galvanised iron and goods, £4,743; hardware, £9,361; live stock, £15,066; oils, £2,710; rice, £3,204; timber, £9,832.

The increase in breadstuffs and drapery show an improved spending power by the natives; the increase in live stock was caused by a large importation of mules for the Colonial Sugar Refining Company.

Fig.
1900.

The following table shows the value of the total imports and exports during the past five years :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1896	242,492	435,342
1897	248,748	431,860
1898	234,850	534,105
1899	263,044	481,856
1900	349,890	619,836

The bulk of the goods imported into this Colony come from Sydney, and there is no means of telling whether they are of British or foreign manufacture. There is a falling off in the importation of timber and canned fruits from the United States, the tendency being to import these goods from Canada and Australia respectively.

The staple products of the Colony are sugar, copra, green fruit, and Colonial distilled spirit. The quantity and value of these exports during the past five years have been as follows :—

Year.	Sugar.		Copra.		Green Fruit.	Colonial Distilled Spirit.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	£	Gallons.	£
1896	27,334	336,929	5,487	48,950	18,488	78,890	10,163
1897	26,991	323,830	7,757	70,182	16,514	15,041	1,180
1898	34,156	409,884	6,474	63,140	25,478	111,088	13,886
1899	28,403	340,602	7,228	73,421	30,606	132,440	16,343
1900	32,961	393,987	15,605	151,701	28,112	158,224	28,839

The total value of the exports for 1900 exceeds that of 1899 by £137,980. Prior to 1900 the highest total reached by the exports was in 1894, when they amounted to £581,652.

The large increase in the export of copra is due partly to the fact that, owing to the scarcity of shipping, there was a considerable quantity of copra produced in 1899 but not exported till 1900. After making allowance for this factor, the

quantity of copra produced in 1900 amounts to some 13,185 tons, which is a large increase on any previous year. This increase is due, in conjunction with a good season, to increased native production, a result of the measures recently initiated by Government for the betterment of the Fijians. Large quantities of cocoanuts, which were formerly left to rot on the ground, are now made into copra by the natives.

Fiji,
1900.

B.—*Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.*

There are at present at work in the Colony five sugar mills, with a nominal daily output of 204 tons of dried sugar; one tea factory, with a capacity of a daily output of 400 lbs. of dried tea; twelve boat-building yards; one soapwork; and four sawmills.

C.—*Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.*

The cultivation of sugar forms the principal agricultural industry of the Colony. The Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Ltd., owning three mills in this Colony, are the largest producers. A fourth mill will shortly be erected by this Company at Lautoka, in the Island of Viti Levu, where land has been leased and is now being brought under cultivation. In the Labasa district the experiment of growing sugar cane on reclaimed mangrove swamps is being tried. The process of reclamation costs, on an average, something over £10 an acre, but the prospects of a return have been deemed sufficiently promising by the Company to warrant its making the experiment with a large area which has been leased to it at a pepper-corn rent. The total area of land under cane cultivation is estimated at 19,376 acres, from which were produced 280,213 tons of cane.

The following statement gives the particulars available as to the cultivation of sugar cane by Fijians during 1900:—

District.				Area.	Quantity.	Value.
				Acres.	Tons.	£
Rewa	...	...	...	532	9,633	4,828
Labasa	...	...	...	147	723	343
Ba	...	...	...	60	1,317	779
Ra	...	...	...	99	2,034	925
Navua	...	...	...	95	1,740	548

Fiji.
1900

An important feature in the sugar industry is the cultivation of cane by Indian coolies who have completed their term of indenture. At Rewa they cultivated, during 1900, 1,077 acres, producing 18,399 tons of cane, valued at £9,473. At Navua they cultivated, during the same period, 1,921 acres, producing 24,087 tons of cane, valued at £12,516.

During the last three years Government has acquired, under the Settlements Fund, certain blocks of land, aggregating 6,790 acres, which have been divided into small holdings, and considerable areas have now been leased at a nominal rent to Indian immigrants whose terms of indenture have expired with a view to inducing them to remain in the country. The annual rental at present obtained from the blocks leased aggregate £234. These monies are retained for the purchase of additional blocks in other suitable localities. In the Labasa district some 525 acres are leased to 173 lessees, who cultivate rice, maize, tobacco, and vegetables. The lessees have the use, in common, of grazing land for their cattle, upon payment of agistment. They own some 520 head of cattle.

There is a botanic station at Suva, from which economic plants are supplied to planters free of cost. During 1900, the following were among the plants so issued:—

3,097 cacao plants, 1,500 coffee plants, 1,100 vanilla plants, 300 allspice plants, 236 clove plants.

D.—Land Grants and General Value of Land.

The total area of Crown land is small, not exceeding 7,000 acres. The area of land held by Europeans under Crown Grant is 424,149 acres. One Crown Grant was issued during the year for 150 acres. Land may be leased from the native owners, through the Crown. The annual rental varies from 3s. to 15s. per acre.

E.—Shipping.

The following statement shows the number, tonnage, and nationality of the steam and sailing vessels entered and cleared at the two ports of entry during the years 1899 and 1900:—

Nationality.	Description.	Entered.				Cleared.			
		1899.		1900.		1899.		1900.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British ...	Steam ...	96	115,237	75	76,332	94	113,992	72	73,826
" ...	Sailing ...	19	5,579	17	8,956	18	5,677	14	8,039
American ...	" ...	2	553	3	1,191	2	553	3	1,191
German ...	" ...	2	1,881	1	777	4	3,353	1	777
Norwegian ...	" ...	8	4,685	15	9,171	4	2,325	16	9,596
Tongan ...	" ...	2	92	1	46	2	92	1	46
Danish ...	" ...	1	664	—	—	1	664	—	—
Italian ...	" ...	—	—	1	436	—	—	1	436

Fiji,
1900.

FLJ1,
1900

The total Shipping, inwards and outwards, during the past five years, is shown in the following statement:—

Year.	Entered.	Cleared.	Total
1896	115,470	115,586	231,056
1897	124,128	123,887	248,015
1898	133,752	132,767	266,519
1899	128,791	126,656	255,447
1900	96,909	93,911	190,820

III. LEGISLATION.

The following are the principal Ordinances passed during 1900:—

II. Criminal Procedure Ordinance, 1875, Amendment Ordinance. Provides that persons included in any Assessors' List may also be included in any List of Jurors. It has been found that after the Assessors' List had been prepared a very poor Jury List was left.

III. Whipping Ordinance. Introduced by direction of the Secretary of State. Limits the number of strokes which may be ordered to twenty-four.

IV. Census Ordinance. Makes provision for the taking of a Census of the Colony on 31st March, 1901.

VI. Customs Duties Ordinance, 1898, Amendment Ordinance. Exempts from duty oils imported as fuel for oil engines. It is expected that this concession will be of great benefit to interinsular trade.

IV. EDUCATION.

The Public Education Ordinance, 1890, provides for the election of School Boards within constituted districts (at present only Suva and Levuka are so constituted). The expenses of the Boards are paid out of the School Fund of each district, consisting (1) of an annual grant on the average attendance, on a scale fixed by the Governor-in-Council, and (2) of a contribution from the rating authorities of the amount required for school purposes beyond the Government grant. Education is free to children within the school districts between six and fourteen years of age. The subjects of an ordinary English education are taught. There are two common schools under

these School Boards, one in Suva, with three teachers and 116 scholars, and one in Levuka, with two teachers and 69 scholars. These schools are inspected annually by an Inspector from the Education Department of Victoria.

Fiji,
1900.

There are also three Roman Catholic schools for Europeans in the Colony, with an attendance of 139.

The education of the natives throughout the group is entirely provided for by the Wesleyan and Roman Catholic Missions. The former have 1,453 schools, with 2,977 teachers and 25,610 scholars. The latter have 157 schools, with 191 teachers and 1,825 scholars.

V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

A.—Hospitals.

There is a hospital at Suva maintained by Government. It is under the charge of a Resident Medical Officer, assisted by two European nurses. During 1900 there were 1,322 patients admitted, including 85 Europeans. The Revenue for the year amounted to £2,211 3s. 2d., and the Expenditure (including the salary of the Resident Medical Officer) to £2,874 9s. 11d.

There are also five provincial hospitals, to which reference is made under the head of "General Observations."

B.—Asylums.

The lunatic asylum at Suva is under the charge of an European warder. The Chief Medical Officer is Superintendent. There were nine admissions and five discharges and six deaths during the year, leaving 13 inmates on 31st December, 1900. Revenue, £189 13s 9d.; Expenditure, £491 14s. 5d.

VI. JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

A.—Police.

The Police Force in the two towns of Suva and Levuka consists of one European Inspector, one European Sergeant, one Native Inspector, two Native Sergeants, three Native Corporals, one Indian and 24 Native Constables, under the control of the Superintendent of Police. In addition to the above there are the Rural Police, consisting of three European Sergeants, 13 Native Sergeants, and 33 Native and Indian Constables, under the control of the Magistrates in the various districts.

**Fiji,
1900.**

B.—Prisons.

There are two gaols, one at Suva and one at Levuka, under the charge of the Superintendent of Prisons. There are also gaols at each of the various Magistrates' stations. All prisoners serving sentences exceeding three months, and, in the case of certain adjacent districts, one month, are sent to Suva gaol. The total number of prisoners committed to Suva and Levuka gaols during 1900 was 946. Prisoners are employed on public works, roads, and as boats' crews.

C.—Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported to the Police and Magistrates during 1900 was 8,799. Of these 708 were offences against the person, 387 were larceny, 148 were offences against property, and 7,556 were other offences—principally breaches of the Labour Ordinances by Indian immigrants. Of the 8,799 cases reported, 2,969 were dismissed, 5,776 were dealt with summarily, and 54 were committed to the Supreme Court. During the year two persons were sentenced to death for murder.

VII. VITAL STATISTICS.

The following statement shows the population as estimated at 31st December, 1900, compared with the 1891 census returns:—

Class.	Census of 5th April, 1891.			Estimate on 31st December, 1901.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Europeans ...	1,273	763	2,036	2,841	1,681	4,522
Half-castes ...	529	547	1,076	656	652	1,308
Indians ...	4,998	2,470	7,468	10,630	4,737	15,367
Polynesians ...	1,923	344	2,267	1,638	284	1,922
Rotumans ...	1,056	1,163	2,219	1,044	1,148	2,192
Fijians ...	56,445	49,355	105,800	51,993	45,716	97,709
Others ...	143	171	314	510	700	1,210
Totals ...	66,367	54,813	121,180	69,312	54,918	124,230

The above figures show a large decrease in the native population. For 1900 the decrease was estimated at 769, the number of births during the year being 3,616, while the deaths numbered 4,385. The birth rate, 37 per mille, and the marriage rate, 14·17 per mille, compare favourably with those of other Colonies. The death rate, however, was 44·87 per mille. The principal factor of the high death rate is the excessive mortality amongst infants. The measures which have been undertaken with a view to reducing the heavy death rate are referred to under the head of "General Observations."

Fiji,
1900.
—

B.—Public Health.

Epidemics of influenza and dengue fever occurred throughout the year, and, in conjunction with whooping-cough, were responsible for the high mortality amongst native children. The occurrence of bubonic plague in New South Wales and New Caledonia necessitated the enforcing of strict quarantine regulations. Measures were also taken for improving sanitary conditions and destroying rats. The total cost of quarantine and plague precautions amounted to £4,439, including the erection of the necessary quarantine and isolation buildings, and the purchase of two punts, an oil-engine launch, and a fumigator.

The European death rate is exceptionally low, as will be seen from the following table, which compares favourably with the statistics of other Colonies:—

Year.			European Population.	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000.
1878	...	...	2,000	43	21·5
1881	...	...	2,671	45	16·84
1884	...	...	3,567	59	16·54
1887	...	...	2,105	31	14·72
1890	...	...	2,059	35	16·99
1893	...	...	2,474	25	10·1
1896	...	...	3,292	31	9·41
1897	...	...	3,401	30	8·82
1898	...	...	3,927	30	7·64
1899	...	...	4,373	26	5·94
1900	...	...	4,522	28	6·19

Fiji,
1900

C.—*Sanitation.*

There are only two European towns in the Colony, neither of which have any system of drainage, beyond that naturally provided by their being situated on hills near the sea. Scavenging is done on the dry-earth system. The heavy rainfall does much to preserve the health of the Colony.

D.—*Climate.*

The total rainfall for the year was 89·87 inches, the greatest daily rainfall being 6·35 inches. The highest temperature in the shade was 93 on the 5th February and the lowest 59·9 on the 20th June. The prevailing winds are south-easterly and easterly.

VIII. POSTAL.

Telegraph and Telephone Service.

The following statement contains the particulars for 1900 of the Postal Service of the Colony:—

—	Internal.	External.				Total.
		United Kingdom.		Other Places.		
		From.	To.	From.	To.	
*Letters and post cards.	283,370	9,199	7,773	73,542	56,405	430,289
Newspapers ...	180,553	35,417	2,698	107,517	10,832	337,017
Book packets, samples and circulars.	33,853	4,365	818	14,600	4,162	57,798
Parcels ...	—	395	59	1,024	155	1,633
Telegrams ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Despatched.		Received.		
*Including Registered		6,490		6,422		

Money Orders were issued and paid in the Colony as follows during 1900:—

Fiji,
1900.

—	Issued in the Colony.	Paid in the Colony.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom	715 10 8	111 7 6
Other Colonies and Foreign Countries	4,088 0 9	505 3 3
Total £	4,803 11 5	616 10 9

A telephone line has been constructed from Suva to Ba, a distance of 120 miles.

IX. MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

C.—*Volunteers.*

There is a Volunteer Force in the Colony, numbering 213 officers and men. The Expenditure on uniforms, ammunition, &c., for 1900, amounted to £243 11s. 11d.

D.—*Constabulary.*

In addition to the above-mentioned force there is a body of armed Native Constabulary, numbering 120 officers and men.

X. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Means of Communication.

Beyond the municipal boundaries of Suva and Levuka there are few roads fit for wheeled traffic, though bridle paths exist everywhere. Attention has lately been given to the making of roads and bridging of rivers and creeks throughout the Colony. A properly metalled road from Suva to Rewa, a distance of some 14 miles, is now in course of construction.

Owing to the insular nature of the Colony, the principal means of communication is by water. There is daily communication by steam launches between Suva and the sugar districts of Rewa and Navua. There is also a bi-weekly service from Suva to Levuka and Ba. Communication between the various islands is maintained by a steamer and a fleet of 173 small sailing vessels, of which 105 are owned by natives.

Fiji,
1900.

Immigration.

The demand for labour on plantations has been met by the introduction of Indian coolies. During 1900, 2,275 Indian immigrants arrived in the Colony, and 403 returns left for Calcutta. There are at present some 15,367 Indians in the Colony, of whom 5,860 are serving their first indenture. The average cost of introduction varies from £17 to £23 for each adult. He is recruited in India through the usual emigration agency system, and comes to Fiji for ten years, five of which he spends in the service of his original requisitioner, and the second five as a free man, working where and how he pleases. At the end of ten years he becomes entitled, with his wife and family, to a free passage to India at the expense of the general revenue of the Colony.

Public Works.

The expenditure on public works during 1900 (exclusive of establishments) amounted to £20,409 5s. 11d. In addition to this a sum of £8,352 14s. 5d. was expended from deposits made in 1898 and 1899, making a total expenditure for the year of £28,762 0s. 4d. The principal works undertaken were:—Maintaining and constructing Government buildings, £8,390 16s. 7d. (including construction of three provincial hospitals, with doctors' quarters, £3,428 11s. d.; and Stipendiary Magistrates' and doctors' quarters, Customs House, and other buildings at the new port of Lautoka, £2,533); Rewa delta water supply (extending previous scheme to 26 towns), £5,067 13s. 7d.; water supplies to certain villages in Tailevu Province, £1,933 5s. 9d.; water supplies to various native towns, £1,235 9s. 11d.; construction of new roads, £1,681 4s. 9d.; bridges, £1,860 11s.; wharves, construction (the extension to Suva wharf will permit vessels drawing 27 feet to lie alongside at low water), £7,336 16s. 8d.

Future Prospects of Trade.

In 1900, the four products, sugar, copra, green fruit, and Colonial distilled spirit, made up over 98 per cent. of the total export trade of the Colony. The principal minor exports are peanuts, beche-de-mer, vanilla, and cocoanuts. Such products as coffee, cocoa, limes, lemons, ginger, and spices do not appear on the list of exports. They can all be produced in the Colony, but the cost of labour militates against their being raised and exported at a profit. During 1900 an area of some 115 acres has been planted with cacao. A sample of Fijian grown cocoa was valued in the London market at 75s. per cwt.

The climate, though warm and moist, is healthy, and not unsuited to Europeans. Manual work is principally performed by coloured labour, Europeans being employed as skilled labourers and overseers.

Fiji,
1900.
—

The following are the average rates of wages:—Carpenters, painters, coopers, blacksmiths, 14s. per day; overseers, £80 to £200, with quarters.

With a view to improving the condition of the Fijians, four Provincial Inspectors were appointed in 1899, each having charge of two provinces. In 1900, three provincial hospitals, with doctors' quarters, were erected, and two of these are now in working order, under the charge of European Provincial Medical Officers. In addition to the above, there are two Provincial hospitals, erected at the expense of the natives, under the charge of District Medical Officers. An annual contribution is made by the natives of the provinces concerned towards the upkeep of these five hospitals. The duties to which the Provincial Inspectors have given their attention are the proper housing of the people, the improvement of water supplies, the proper care of infants and sick persons, and the improvement in the condition of women. It has been found that in many cases two, and sometimes three, or even four, families were inhabiting a single house, which in Fiji invariably consists of but a single room. The first duty of the Provincial Inspectors has therefore been to secure a separate house for each married couple, and to this end 5,733 houses have been erected since 1899 in the eight provinces under their control. The amount of money which the natives have received from various sources has been largely increased latterly, and it is estimated that during 1900 they had some £140,000 at their disposal.

The Finances of the Colony are in a sound condition. After making adequate provision for public works and the repayment of loans, the Revenue for 1900 exceeded the Expenditure by £11,546 10s. 3d. The accumulated balance to the credit of the Colony on 31st December, 1900, amounted to £32,642 13s. 4d. This sum will be available in the event of a deficiency occurring at any time owing to a severe hurricane or other unforeseen cause.

W. L. ALLARDYCE,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
By DARLING & SON, LLD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.
1901.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 366.

FIJI.

REPORT FOR 1901.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 331.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-36.] Price 1½d.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions, have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
345	Grenada	1900
346	Northern Nigeria	1900-1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900-1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900-1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900
354	Bermuda	1901
355	Gambia	"
356	Falkland Islands	"
357	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
358	Malta	"
359	Gibraltar	"
360	Straits Settlements	"
361	Sierra Leone	"
362	British Honduras	"
363	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
364	Seychelles	"
365	Bahamas... ..	1901-1902

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand... ..	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas... ..	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific... ..	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas... ..	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies... ..	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
20	Wei Hai Wei	General Report.

FIJI, 1901.

No. 366.

FIJI.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No 331.)

ACTING GOVERNOR ALLARDYCE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,

Suva, Fiji,

15th August, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to state that two copies of the Blue-Book of this Colony for the year 1901 are being forwarded to you under separate cover by this mail, and to enclose herewith copy of a report thereon by Mr. Sutherland, the Acting Assistant Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

W. L. ALLARDYCE.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR 1901.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1901:—

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The following statement shows the amount of revenue received, under the various heads, for the years 1901 and 1900:—

Head of Revenue.	1901.			1900.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs	66,875	10	2	65,932	11	5
Port, Wharfage, and Lighthouse Dues	4,853	14	10	4,785	13	4
Native Taxes	19,171	16	7	19,295	3	6
Licenses, Excise, and Internal Revenue, not otherwise classified.	9,035	1	9	8,646	12	3
Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid.	8,046	6	6	8,325	4	7
Post Office	3,076	8	10	2,679	10	2
Rent of Government Property ...	657	14	10	491	2	9
Interest	566	15	4	177	16	4
Miscellaneous Receipts... ..	1,508	19	1	1,209	19	2
	113,792	7	11	111,543	13	6
Land Sales and Premia on Leases ...	61	0	0	25	4	3
Total £	113,853	7	11	111,568	17	9

The following is a statement of the expenditure for the years 1901 and 1900, under the various heads:—

Head of Expenditure.	1901.			1900.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Charges on Account of Public Debt ...	9,285	15	1	9,301	10	1
Pensions	2,344	3	0	2,195	17	8
The Governor and Legislature ...	2,634	16	3	2,713	16	4
Colonial Secretary's Department ...	1,213	6	1	1,450	6	6
Government Printing Office	1,753	8	2	1,510	9	2
Audit Department	700	19	1	682	5	11
Postal Department	1,217	4	0	1,192	3	1
Provincial Department	6,985	0	11	7,425	8	4
Treasury... ..	3,768	8	11	3,540	2	6
Customs Department	3,138	2	11	2,916	6	0
Port and Marine Department... ..	1,862	19	3	1,877	7	11
Carried forward						

Expenditure—cont.

Head of Expenditure.	1901.			1900.		
	£	s	d.	£	s	d.
Brought forward ...						
Immigration Department ...	7,997	4	11	7,223	13	4
Judicial and Legal Departments ...	9,171	7	7	8,608	17	6
Police Department ...	2,976	16	10	2,956	1	7
Armed Native Constabulary ...	2,686	7	9	2,315	1	10
Prisons Department ...	3,473	15	8	3,763	17	6
Medical Department ...	7,311	10	3	5,697	19	11
Hospital and Lunatic Asylum ...	2,866	15	11	2,716	4	4
Education ...	1,007	8	0	1,359	8	9
Transport ...	1,607	13	5	1,492	13	3
Miscellaneous ...	1,815	1	2	5,905	3	9
Lands, Works, and Survey Department ...	1,711	9	6	1,652	11	7
Public Works Annually Recurrent ...	7,286	13	9	2,371	16	6
	84,816	8	5	80,874	3	4
Public Works Extraordinary ...	20,156	17	10	19,148	4	2
Total ...	104,973	6	3	100,022	7	6

The total revenue and expenditure during each of the past five years is shown in the following statement:—

Year.			Revenue.	Expenditure.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1897	...	...	74,491 16 1	73,231 11 0
1898	...	...	94,146 15 6	87,594 8 6
1899	...	...	98,621 7 8	95,567 13 2
1900	...	...	111,563 17 9	100,022 7 6
1901	...	...	113,853 7 11	104,973 6 3

The revenue for 1901, viz., £113,853 7s. 11d., again shows an increase over that of all previous years. It exceeds that of 1900 by £2,284 10s. 2d.

It is satisfactory to note that the increase is chiefly due to the Customs and Postal Departments, and may, therefore, be regarded as indicative of growing commercial activity.

(B.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The statement of the assets and liabilities of the Colony at 31st December, 1901, shows that on that date the excess of assets over liabilities, or the accumulated surplus to the credit of the Colony, amounted to £41,491 12s. 9d.

(C.) PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt of the Colony at 31st December, 1901, amounted to £196,095 11s. 5d. Of this amount, £93,395 11s. 5d. is an advance, without interest, from Imperial funds, which is being repaid at the rate of £1,040 5s. 1d. per annum. The remainder consists of £102,700 debentures, bearing interest at 4½ per cent. A sum of £1,500 per annum is applied to the redemption of these debentures. The interest on debentures so redeemed is applied to the further reduction of the Debt. During 1901 the Public Debt was reduced by £4,440 5s. 1d.

(D.) CURRENCY AND BANKING.

The legal tender currency, and the only coin in circulation, is British sterling. The amount of coin in circulation is estimated at £70,000. There is no Government note issue.

The Bank of New Zealand has two branches in the Colony, at Suva and Levuka, and the Bank of New South Wales has recently opened a branch in the Colony at Suva.

(E.) MUNICIPAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure, during the last five years, of the Suva and Levuka Town Boards, and the Suva and Levuka School Boards:—

Year.	Suva Town Board.		Levuka Town Board.	
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£
1897 ...	1,509	1,662	879	995
1898 ...	1,603	1,600	980	976
1899 ...	1,710	1,639	1,511	1,511
1900 ...	1,644	1,529	1,627	1,606
1901 ...	1,994	2,095	2,035	1,963

Year.	Suva School Board.		Levuka School Board.	
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£
1897 ...	729	694	581	591
1898 ...	726	722	542	520
1899 ...	759	716	548	560
1900 ...	719	681	559	557
1901 ...	758	809	768	757

(F.) DEBTS OF MUNICIPALITIES.

The Municipal Boards have no power to borrow money.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following statement shows the value of the principal items of import during the past two years:—

Nature of Import.	1900.	1901.
	£	£
Bacon and hams	1,523	1,526
Beer	3,240	3,188
Boots and shoes	4,185	3,968
Breadstuffs and biscuits	21,902	22,197
Butter and ghee	5,982	6,618
Cement	1,155	2,920
Coals	8,802	13,064
Cutlery	3,019	2,583
Drapery	67,257	61,554
Drugs	4,158	4,153
Fish	2,787	3,651
Furniture	2,727	2,254
Galvanised iron and goods	12,014	10,180
Glassware and crockery	2,459	2,584
Hardware	23,277	29,470
Iron—bar, rod, sheet, rails, and pipes	10,385	15,322
Jewellery	2,236	2,400
Leatherware	3,328	2,811
Live stock	23,358	6,390
Machinery	7,996	6,926
Machinery—agricultural	2,976	6,697
Manure	4,678	4,555
Meats	11,901	11,410
Oils	10,075	10,743
Pickles and oilstores	694	733
Paints	2,349	2,400
Produce	1,173	1,710
Rice	9,245	8,585
Ship chandlery	2,888	3,948
Spirits	4,535	5,414
Stationery	3,049	3,222
Sugar	1,503	1,361
Timber	15,234	17,123
Tobacco	2,703	2,963
Vegetables and green fruit	2,966	3,850
Wines	1,680	1,816

Among the items showing the largest increases, the following may be noted—cement, £1,761; coals, £4,262; fish, £864;

hardware, £6,193; iron goods, £4,937; agricultural machinery, £4,721; ship chandlery, £1,060; timber, £1,889.

On several lines decreases are shown, but the only item calling for special note is that of live stock, which has fallen off to the extent of £16,967. This is explained by the fact that in 1900 a special shipment of mules valued at some £20,000 was made from America by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, and swelled the figures under this head far above the normal standard.

The following table shows the value of the total imports and exports during the past five years:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1897	248,748	431,860
1898	234,850	534,105
1899	263,044	481,856
1900	349,890	619,836
1901	351,183	548,805

The quantity and value of the staple products of the Colony exported during the past five years are given in the subjoined table:—

Year.	Sugar.		Copra.		Green Fruit.	Colonial Distilled Spirit.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	£	Gallons.	£
1897	26,991	323,830	7,757	70,182	16,514	15,041	1,180
1898	34,156	409,884	6,474	63,140	25,478	111,088	13,886
1899	28,403	340,602	7,228	73,421	30,606	132,440	16,343
1900	32,961	393,987	15,605	151,701	28,112	158,224	20,009
1901	31,751	380,155	10,626	107,372	23,175	137,937	17,232

There has been a decrease in the total value of exports of some £70,000. The lines of produce chiefly accountable for this are copra, £44,329; sugar, £13,832; green fruit, £4,937; and Colonial distilled spirits, £2,777.

Copra, however, through heavy stocks carried forward from 1899, increased the exports for 1900 to an abnormal extent, so that the quantity exported in 1901, *i.e.*, 10,626 tons, may be taken as approximately the present annual output of the Colony.

The falling off in green fruit may be ascribed to the detrimental effect of the Commonwealth Tariff, which for some months

imposed a duty of 2s. per cental on bananas, and entirely stopped the exportation to New South Wales. The duty has now been reduced by half, viz., to 1s. per cental, with the result that the trade has been resumed.

(B.) MANUFACTURES, MINES, AND FISHERIES.

The appended table gives the various mills, factories, &c., established in this Colony, and their nominal daily output.

—	No.	Aggregate nominal daily output.
Sugar mills	5	204 tons dried sugar.
Tea factory	1	400 lbs. dried tea.
Soap factory	1	12 cwt. soap.
Tobacco factory	1	2,500 cigars.
Boatbuilding yards	10	
Saw-mills	6	

The value of pearl shell exported during the year was £927; tortoise shell, £1,152; beche-de-mer, £2,657.

The cultivation of sugar forms the principal agricultural industry of the Colony. The Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited, of Sydney, are the largest producers. They own three mills in the Colony. A fourth is being erected, and is expected to start crushing in 1903. It is situated at Lautoka, in the Island of Vitilevu, about 20 miles from the same company's Ba Mill, and the large areas of land in its vicinity are already under cane cultivation. The experiment of cane growing on reclaimed mangrove swamp is still being extensively carried on in the Labasa District, and seems to promise very satisfactory returns.

The total area of land in the Colony under cane cultivation is estimated at 27,399 acres, from which were produced 291,629 tons of cane.

The following statement gives the available particulars relative to sugar cane cultivated by natives during 1901:—

District.	Area.	Quantity.	Value.
	Acres.	Tons.	£
Rewa	546	8,082	4,370
Labasa	191	1,418	904
Ba	122	2,406	1,581
Ra	105	972	451
Navua	42	513	214

In addition to native and European cultivation the sugar industry is extensively carried on in some districts by time-expired Indian immigrants who have settled on small holdings in the vicinity of sugar mills. In the Rewa District during 1901 they cultivated 1,046 acres, producing 17,292 tons of cane valued at £9,281, and at Navua an aggregate area of 2,427 acres, from which 32,555 tons, valued at £17,458, were cut.

The lands acquired by the Crown under the Settlements Fund for the settling of Indian immigrants who have completed their term of indenture now comprise some 7,000 acres. At Labasa, in particular, these lands are eagerly taken up by the Indian labourers from the adjacent sugar estates as soon as their terms of service have expired. They cultivate rice, maize, tobacco, and vegetables. A large number of cattle are owned by them, and they supply the Europeans as well as their own countrymen with fresh milk.

The Botanic Station at Suva was enriched during 1901 by several importations of tropical seeds and plants for purposes of propagation and distribution. Some 9,000 plants were supplied free of charge to planters and others during the year. Amongst them were the following:—

Plants.	No.
Cacao plants	6,389
Coffee „	224
Vanilla „	1,605
Allspice „	226
Clove „	43

Several varieties of rubber are now being raised in the nurseries.

(D.) LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

The total area of Crown land does not exceed 7,000 acres. The area of land held by Europeans under Crown grant is 424,129 acres. Land is extensively leased to European and other settlers by the native owners through the Government. Every facility is afforded by the latter towards the opening up and utilisation of such lands as are not occupied or actually required by the native owners. The annual rental varies from 3s. to £1 per acre.

(E.) SHIPPING.

The following table represents the number, nationality, and tonnage of the steam and sailing vessels entered and cleared at the ports of entry during the years 1900 and 1901:—

Vessels Entered and Cleared.

Nationality.	Description.	Entered.				Cleared.			
		1900.		1901.		1900.		1901.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British ...	Steam	75	76,332	81	91,170	72	73,826	80	86,694
" ...	Sailing	17	8,956	15	2,081	14	8,039	14	2,058
American ...		3	1,191	3	1,289	3	1,191	3	1,289
German ...		1	777	—	—	1	777	—	—
Norwegian ...		15	9,171	16	10,547	16	9,596	14	8,941
Tongan ...		1	46	1	16	1	46	—	—
Danish ...		—	—	1	608	—	—	1	608
Italian ...		1	436	—	—	1	436	—	—

The total shipping, inwards and outwards, during the past five years is shown in the following statement:—

Year.			Entered.	Cleared.	Total
			Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1897	...	...	124,128	123,887	248,015
1898	...	...	133,752	132,767	266,519
1899	...	...	128,791	126,656	255,447
1900	...	...	96,909	93,911	190,820
1901	...	...	105,711	99,590	205,301

III.—LEGISLATION.

The only special legislation enacted during 1901 was Ordinance No. II. "To make further Provision for the Peace and Good Order of the Colony." For the present, however, action under this Ordinance has been deferred.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Public Education Ordinance, 1890, provides for the election of School Boards within constituted districts (at present, only Suva and Levuka are so constituted). The expenses of the Boards are paid out of the "School Fund" of each district, consisting (1) of an annual grant by Government on the average attendance, on a scale fixed by the Governor-in-Council, and (2) of a contribution from the rating authorities of the amount required for school purposes beyond the Government grant.

Education is free to children within the school districts between 6 and 14 years of age. The subjects of an ordinary English education are taught. There are two common schools under these School Boards, one in Suva with three teachers and 103 scholars, and one in Levuka with two teachers and 76 scholars. These schools are inspected annually by an inspector from the Education Department of Victoria.

There are also three Roman Catholic schools for Europeans in the Colony, with an attendance of 220.

The education of the natives throughout the group is entirely provided for by the Wesleyan and Roman Catholic Missions. The former have 1,411 schools, with 2,598 teachers, and 23,301 scholars; the latter have 160 schools, with 198 teachers, and 1,849 scholars.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) HOSPITALS.

There is a hospital at Suva maintained by Government. It is under the charge of a Resident Medical Officer, assisted by four European nurses, the whole being supervised by the Chief Medical Officer. During 1901 there were 1,167 patients admitted, including 93 Europeans.

The revenue for the year amounted to £2,190 3s. 0d., and the expenditure (including the salary of the Resident Medical Officer) to £2,870 3s. 8d.

There are also five provincial hospitals, to which reference is made under the head of "General Observations."

(B.) ASYLUMS.

The lunatic asylum at Suva is under the charge of a European warder. The chief medical officer is superintendent. There were 10 admissions and two discharges and one death during the year, leaving 20 inmates on 31st December, 1901. Revenue, £125 9s. 9d.; expenditure, £559 3s. 7d.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

The Police Force in the two towns of Suva and Levuka consists of two European inspectors, three native sergeants, three native corporals, one Indian and 25 native constables, under the control of the Superintendent of Police. In addition to the

above, there are the rural police, consisting of three European sergeants, 13 native sergeants, and 45 native and Indian constables, under the control of the magistrates in the various districts.

(B.) PRISONS.

There are two gaols, one at Suva and one at Levuka, under the charge of the Superintendent of Prisons. There are also gaols at each of the various magistrates' stations. All prisoners serving sentences exceeding three months, and, in the case of certain adjacent districts, one month, are sent to Suva Gaol. The total number of prisoners committed to Suva and Levuka gaols during 1901 was 887. Prisoners are employed on public works, roads, and as boats' crews.

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The total number of offences reported to the police and magistrates during 1901 was 8,216. Of these, 875 were offences against the person, 520 were larceny, 168 were offences against property, and 6,653 were other offences, principally breaches of the Labour Ordinance by Indian immigrants. Of the 8,216 cases reported, 2,410 were dismissed, 5,729 were dealt with summarily, and 77 were committed to the Supreme Court. During the year seven persons were sentenced to death for murder.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The following statement shows the population as estimated at 31st December, 1901, compared with the 1901 Census returns:—

	Census of 31st March, 1901.			Estimate on 31st December, 1901.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Europeans ...	1,531	928	2,459	1,545	946	2,491
Half-castes ...	759	757	1,516	778	754	1,532
Indians ...	11,353	5,752	17,105	12,259	6,198	18,457
Polynesians ...	1,584	366	1,950	1,603	360	1,963
Rotumans ...	1,036	1,194	2,230	1,021	1,174	2,195
Fijians ...	50,357	44,040	94,397	49,998	43,840	93,838
Others ...	254	213	467	254	217	471
Totals ...	66,874	53,250	120,124	67,458	53,489	120,947

The above figures show a large decrease in the native population. For 1901 the decrease was estimated at 896, the number of births during the year being 3,362, while the deaths numbered 4,258. The birth rate was 33·69 per mille, the marriage rate was 12·41 per mille, and the death rate 55·92 per mille.

The high death rate is still unfortunately traceable to the abnormal infant mortality among the natives.

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony has been good. Influenza and dengue fever were common at certain seasons, but no serious epidemic or infectious disease has been prevalent. The most careful precautions have been taken to prevent the introduction of bubonic plague from Australia or New Zealand, and quarantine regulations have been strictly enforced where necessary. The measures instituted for the destruction of rats were sustained.

A new leproserie for the segregation of lepers has been erected on the Island of Beqa.

The European population at 31st December, 1901, is estimated at 2,491. The deaths during the year numbered 30, which is at the rate of 12·4 per mille.

Fiji compares favourably with other tropical countries in this respect, inasmuch as the rate is exceptionally low, and the Colony may be regarded as one of the most healthy in the tropics.

(C.) SANITATION.

There are only two European towns in the Colony, neither of which has any system of drainage beyond that naturally provided by their being situated on hills near the sea. Scavenging is done on the dry-earth system. The heavy rainfall does much to preserve the health of the Colony.

(D.) CLIMATE.

The total rainfall for the year was 119·07 inches, the greatest daily rainfall being 8·23 inches on the 16th February. The highest temperature in the shade was 94·2° on the 23rd January, and the lowest 61·0° on the 3rd September. The prevailing winds are south-easterly and easterly.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The following statement contains the particulars for 1901 of the postal service of the Colony:—

—	Internal.	External.				Total.
		United Kingdom.		Other Places.		
		From.	To.	From.	To.	
*Letters and post cards.	293,292	9,341	7,819	75,133	59,899	445,484
Newspapers ...	180,899	32,000	3,481	107,976	13,841	338,197
Book packets, samples and circulars	34,089	4,581	955	14,850	4,148	58,623
Parcels ...	—	400	74	2,107	207	2,788
Telegrams ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

*Including Registered Despatched. Received.
7,121 6,737

Money orders were issued and paid in the Colony as follows during 1901:—

—				Issued in the Colony.	Paid in the Colony.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom	...	...	...	974 4 7	192 4 10
Other Colonies and Foreign Countries				4,906 17 6	693 13 3
Total	...	...	£	5,881 2 1	885 18 1

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

(A.) VOLUNTEERS.

There is a Volunteer Force in the Colony, numbering 187 officers and men. The expenditure on uniforms, ammunition, &c., for 1901 amounted to £391 7s. 8d., as against £243 11s. 11d. in 1900.

(B.) CONSTABULARY.

In addition to the above-mentioned force, there is a body of armed native constabulary, numbering 118 officers and men.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

Beyond the municipal boundaries of Suva and Levuka there are few roads fit for wheeled traffic, though bridle paths exist everywhere. Considerable attention has lately been given to the making of roads and bridging of rivers and creeks throughout the Colony. A metalled road from Suva to Rewa, a distance of some 14 miles, is now open and has been largely used by the travelling public. This road connects with other roads on the left bank of the river by means of a pontoon ferry.

Owing to the insular nature of the Colony the principal means of communication is of necessity by water. There is daily communication by steam launches between Suva and the sugar districts of Rewa and Navua. There is also a weekly service from Suva to Levuka and Ba. Communication between the various islands is maintained by a steamer and a fleet of 161 small sailing vessels, of which 94 are owned by natives.

IMMIGRATION.

During 1901, 2,420 Indian immigrants were introduced into the Colony, and 515 returns left for Calcutta. There are at present some 18,459 Indians in the Colony, of whom 7,033 are serving their first indenture. The cost of introduction per adult in 1901 was estimated at £14 10s., but the actual cost was only £12 17s. 10½d., a lower figure than any previous year. The labourer is recruited in India, through the usual emigration agency system, and comes to Fiji for 10 years, five of which he spends in the service of his original requisitioner, and the second five as a free man, working where and how he pleases. At the end of 10 years he becomes entitled, with his wife and family, to a free passage to India at the expense of the general revenue of the Colony.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The expenditure on public works during 1901 (exclusive of establishments) amounted to £27,443 11s. 7d. In addition to this, a sum of £5,027 1s. 5d. was expended from deposits made in 1889 and 1900, making a total expenditure for the year of £32,470 13s. The principal works undertaken were—maintaining and constructing Government buildings, £7,272 11s. 8d.; water supplies, £4,013 5s. 4d.; new roads, £2,180 18s. 8d.; bridges, £2,834 8s. 3d.; renewing and repairing wharfs, £3,754 0s. 2d.; lighthouses, £2,709 12s. 3d.

FUTURE PROSPECTS OF TRADE.

In 1901 the four products, sugar, copra, green fruit, and Colonial distilled spirit, made up over 97 per cent. of the total export trade of the Colony. The principal minor exports are,

cocoanuts, peanuts, bêche-de-mer, pearl, shell, maize, turtle shell, and vanilla. Such products as coffee, cocoa, limes, lemons, ginger, and spices, do not appear at present on the list of exports, but they can all be grown in the Colony, and planters have lately been turning their attention to some of these products, which may shortly be expected to figure on the export list.

The climate, though warm and moist, is healthy and not unsuited to Europeans. Manual work is principally performed by coloured labour, Europeans being employed as skilled labourers and overseers.

The following are the average rates of wages—carpenters, painters, coopers, blacksmiths, 14s. per day; overseers, £80 to £200 per annum, with quarters.

With a view to improving the condition of the Fijians, four provincial inspectors were appointed in 1899, each having charge of two provinces. In 1900, two provincial hospitals, with doctors' quarters, were erected, and are now in working order, and a third was established in 1901. These are under the charge of European provincial medical officers. In addition to the above, there are two provincial hospitals erected at the expense of the natives under the charge of district medical officers. A small annual contribution is made by the natives of the provinces concerned towards the upkeep of these five hospitals. The duties to which the provincial inspectors have given their attention are the proper housing of the people, the improvement of water supplies, the proper care of infants and sick persons, and the improvement in the condition of women. The overcrowding in houses, so common in many provinces, has been greatly diminished, but much still remains to be done in this direction. The first duty of the provincial inspectors has, therefore, been to secure a separate house for each married couple, and to this end 5,733 houses were erected between 1899 and 1900, and 4,795 during 1901, in the eight provinces under their control.

The amount of money which the natives have received from various sources has been considerable of late years, and it is estimated that during 1901 they had some £120,000 at their disposal.

The sound condition of the finances of the Colony has been fully sustained. After making adequate provision for public works and the repayment of loans, the revenue for 1901 exceeded the expenditure by £8,880 1s. 8d. The accumulated balance to the credit of the Colony on 31st December, 1901, amounted to £41,491 12s. 9d. This sum may be regarded as an insurance in the event of a recurrence of hurricane or other similar disaster.

WM. SUTHERLAND,
Acting Assistant Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 355.

G A M B I A .

REPORT FOR 1901.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 325.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W. ;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH ;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-25]. Price 2d.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	1900
336	British New Guinea	1899-1900
337	Leeward Islands... ..	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar	"
343	Basutoland	1900-1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	"
346	Northern Nigeria	1900-1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900-1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900-1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900
354	Bermuda... ..	1901

MISCELLANEOUS.

No	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand... ..	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas... ..	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific... ..	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas... ..	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.

No. 355.

GAMBIA,
1901.

G A M B I A.

(For Report for 1900, see No. 325.)

GOVERNOR SIR G. C. DENTON to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,

SIR,

Bathurst, 18th May, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to forward under separate cover a copy
(in manuscript) of the Blue Book for 1901.

2. I also transmit an interesting report on the Blue Book by
Mr. H. M. B. Griffith, the officer in charge of the secretariat.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE C. DENTON,

Governor.

GAMBIA,
1901.

REPORT ON THE GAMBIA BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1901.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The total revenue for the year amounted to £43,726, being a decrease of £5,435 on that of the previous year.

2. The following figures show the amounts collected under the various heads of revenue for the years 1900 and 1901, with the several increases or decreases:—

Head of Revenue.	1900.	1901.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	39,235	33,127	—	6,108
Port dues	805	746	—	59
Licences, excise, &c.	558	785	227	—
Fees of court, &c.	704	836	—	132
Post office... ..	460	770	304	—
Sale of Government property ...	445	463	18	—
Government vessels	1,136	521	—	614
Interest	1,498	1,991	493	—
Protectorate	3,288	3,679	391	—
Miscellaneous receipts	951	808	—	143
Land sales... ..	80	—	—	80
Total	49,160	43,726	1,433	7,136

3. The increases were due to (1) fines imposed on native chiefs connected with the disturbances in the early part of the year; (2) to increased sales of stamps to dealers and collectors who anticipated a new issue; and (3) to the extension of the Hut Tax Ordinance to new districts in the Protectorate.

4. The decreases were due under (1) Customs, to decreased importations following a reduction in the ground-nut crop output owing to light rains in the season; and (2) to the Government steamer being required for duty with the Expeditionary Force which arrived in the Colony early in the year, and, therefore, unavailable for the carriage of passengers and freight up and down the river.

5. The expenditure for the year amounted to £48,518, being an increase of £18,700 on that of the previous year.

6. The following return shows the items of expenditure for the two years:—

GAMBIA,
1901.

Head of Expenditure.	1900.	1901.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Pensions	1,031	1,034	4	—
Governor	2,455	3,258	803	—
Protectorate	2,300	3,116	816	—
Printing department	188	202	14	—
Treasury	1,034	978	—	57
Customs... ..	1,923	1,882	—	41
Post Office	370	450	80	—
Audit department	345	413	68	—
Legal	1,406	1,393	—	13
Educational	417	504	87	—
Police	4,031	4,585	553	—
Prisons	680	803	122	—
Medical	1,071	1,214	143	—
Hospitals, &c.	592	809	217	—
Manager of Kombo	151	150	—	1
Government vessels	1,580	1,777	197	—
Charitable	89	87	—	2
Transport	575	1,034	458	—
Miscellaneous	1,668	1,752	94	—
Drawbacks	29	118	89	—
Colonial engineer's department	983	1,117	134	—
Agriculture	238	146	—	94
Public works recurrent	2,523	3,065	537	—
„ extraordinary	2,910	4,806	1,895	—
Special services... ..	1,094	13,826	12,733	—
Native affairs	139	—	—	139
Total	29,818	48,518	19,045	345

GAMBIA,
1901.

7. The increases which are mainly under Special Services are due (1) to the cost of the expedition in the first part of the year; (2) to the purchase of a house as a Police Station; and (3) to the cost of raising in the Colony a company of the West African Frontier Force.

8. The following return shows the Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years:—

Year.			Revenue.	Expenditure.
			£	£
1897	...	...	39,415	27,059
1898	...	...	46,718	29,035
1899	...	...	46,840	30,405
1900	...	...	49,161	29,818
1901	...	...	43,726	48,518

B.—TAXATION.

9. There was no increase of taxation during the year.

C.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

10. The amount standing to the credit of the Colony on the 31st December, 1901, was £58,115. Of this, the sum of £43,857 was invested in various Colonial Government securities.

D.—PUBLIC DEBT.

11. The Colony has no public debt.

E.—MUNICIPALITIES, LOCAL BOARDS, &C.

12. The only Board of this nature in the Colony is the Board of Health, which is responsible for the sanitary condition of the town of Bathurst. It consists of the Colonial surgeon, who is president, the Colonial engineer, and four other members appointed by the Governor. Its revenue is derived from (1) rates levied on the annual value of house property, 3 per cent.; (2) slaughter-house fees; and (3) by an annual grant from the Government. The following revenue was received under these three heads during the year:—

Local rates...	...	...	£
Slaughter-house fees	...	...	527
Grant-in-Aid	...	...	96
			200
Total	...	...	823

The total expenditure for the same period amounted to £870, showing an excess of expenditure over revenue of £47, which will be defrayed from the receipts for the current year. GAMBIA,
1901.

13. The following figures show the receipts and expenditure of the Board for the last five years:—

Year.			Revenue.	Expenditure.
			£	£
1897	...	...	670	622
1898	...	...	687	678
*1899	...	...	939	948
*1900	...	...	938	938
1901	...	...	823	870

* In these years additional grants of £132 and £137 were made to the Board by the Government.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

A.—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

14. The total value of the imports for the year amounted to £252,646, as compared with £277,659 in 1900, a decrease of £25,013, which was mainly under cotton goods, and due (1) to smaller importations, owing to the mercantile houses having large stocks on hand from the previous year; and (2) to the failure of the ground crop, which considerably reduced the purchasing power of the natives. Kola nuts shared with cotton goods the cause of the falling off in the value of the imports, for whereas the value of kola nuts imported in 1900 amounted to £39,937, the quantity imported in 1901 exceeded that imported during 1900 by 19,423 lbs., but was only valued at £21,008, a decrease on the value of 1900 of £18,929.

15. There was a considerable increase in the importations of rice owing to the destruction of the local crops by locusts. The following figures show the difference between 1900 and 1901:—

Year.			Quantity.	Value.
			Cwt.	£.
1900	...	...	53,642	25,191
1901	...	...	86,986	38,359

GAMBIA,
1901.

16. The following return gives the principal articles of import in 1900 and 1901:—

Articles,	Quantity.		Value.			
	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.	Increase.	Decrease.
Cotton goods	Pkgs. 3,286	Pkgs. 2,084	£ 61,263	£ 44,262	£ —	£ 17,001
Tobacco ...	Lbs. 208,279	Lbs. 255,285	4,768	6,505	1,737	—
Kola nuts ...	824,399	843,822	39,937	21,008	—	18,929
Spirits ...	Gals. 21,670	Gals. 34,967	3,386	4,531	1,145	—
Wine ...	13,129	17,689	1,779	2,314	535	—
Sugar ...	Cwt. 4,914	Cwt. 3,313	3,997	2,903	—	1,094
Salt ...	Tons. 1,388	Tons. 1,818	1,186	1,529	343	—
Gunpowder...	Brls. 126	Brls. 219	339	360	21	—
Rice ...	Cwt. 53,642	Cwt. 86,986	25,191	38,539	13,348	—

17. The values of the imports for the last five years were as under:—

Year.					Specie.	Other Articles.	Total.
					£	£	£
1897	...	...	...	...	36,515	139,812	176,327
1898	...	...	...	...	59,030	187,062	246,092
1899	...	...	...	...	69,335	171,572	240,907
1900	...	...	...	...	83,251	194,408	277,659
1901	...	...	...	...	67,552	185,095	252,647

Exports.

18. The total value of the exports for the year amounted to £233,667, as compared with £281,976 in the previous year. This decrease was almost entirely brought about by the failure of the ground-nut crop due to the failure of the rains. The crop yielded about 10,000 tons, of the value of about £50,000, less than it did in the preceding year.

GAMBIA,
1901.

19. The following return shows the principal articles of export for the years 1900 and 1901 :—

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.			
	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.	Increase.	Decrease.
Ground-nuts	Tons. 35,805	Tons. 25,750	£ 221,841	£ 172,405	£ —	£ 49,436
Rubber ...	Lbs. 125,446	Lbs. 146,573	10,217	8,963	—	1,254
Palm kernels	Tons. 159	Tons. 153	1,021	971	--	50
Wax ...	Lbs. 21,996	Lbs. 63,893	923	2,606	1,883	—
Hides ...	1,651	2,148	369	475	106	—

20. The values of the exports for the last five years were as under :—

Year.					Specie.	Other Articles.	Total.
1897	...	...	...	...	£ 2,272	£ 163,622	£ 165,894
1898	...	...	...	...	2,722	245,110	247,832
1899	...	...	...	...	7,439	234,497	241,936
1900	...	...	...	...	41,271	240,705	281,976
1901	...	...	...	...	39,212	194,455	233,667

GAMBIA,
1901.

B.—MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

21. There are no mines in the Colony. In view of the recent development of the gold mining industry on the Gold Coast, it may be worth recording that a few years ago an individual in Government employ took samples of rock from one of the districts in this Colony to England. He afterwards reported that on examination the samples in question showed a richness of gold equal to the best mines in South Africa, and immediately endeavoured to float a company.

22. With a view to ascertaining what truth there was in the statement, the Government sent home samples of rock from the same district, with the result that the assay showed them to contain 2 dwts. of gold to the ton. It is hardly necessary to add that the Gambia Goldfields Corporation has not yet come before the public.

23. The only manufactures in the Colony are a small quantity of native pottery and narrow strips of cloth called "Bandy-cloths," which, when sewed together, are called "pagns," and make handsome cloths much prized by the natives.

24. A considerable number of people at Bathurst and on the sea coast both northwards and to the south are engaged in fishing. Large quantities are caught, and what is not immediately consumed is dried and taken up the river in the dry season and exchanged for corn, rice, etc.

C.—AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

25. The cultivation of ground-nuts is the principal industry throughout the Colony. Large crops of cassada, maize, and rice are also grown, but not in sufficient quantities to supply the wants of the people all the year round. The local-grown rice is much preferred by the natives, and if put on the market it is believed that it would command a much higher price than the Rangoon rice, large quantities of which are annually imported, but, as in many other respects in this Colony, the question of labour is the great difficulty. The following figures give the importations of rice for the last five years:—

1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Cwt. 29,426	Cwt. 80,956	Cwt. 35,900	Cwt. 53,642	Cwt. 86,986

Sweet potatoes are grown to a limited extent, and when in season large quantities of oranges and limes can be obtained. The former, grown in the Kombo district, about 8 miles from Bathurst, are well known for their excellence.

26. A point not without interest in a place like the Gambia is that there is hardly a European resident who, if he has a garden attached to his house, does not grow English vegetables sufficient to supply himself and his less fortunate friends for at least six months in the year, viz., from November to April. With ordinary care, cabbages, carrots, turnips, kohl rabi, lettuces, beetroot, French beans, cress, and radishes can be grown most successfully; indeed, some of the French residents, who have the best gardens, are sufficiently enterprising to grow cauliflowers and celery.

GAMBIA,
1901.
—

27. A botanic station was established in 1894, but it cannot be said to have been successful in the development of minor industries. It is extremely doubtful whether the site selected was a suitable one, and it is in contemplation to remove it at an early date to a more favourable locality. The present station has, however, assisted in the distribution of many orange and lime trees, and suckers of the Canary banana; but without a supervising eye it has been difficult to get the natives to give the necessary attention to the young orange and lime trees, so that the majority of them have died during their first dry season.

LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

28. A Public Lands Ordinance was passed during the year, but no grants of land were made under it.

29. It has been difficult to obtain reliable information, but the value of land in the Colony is low.

E.—SHIPPING.

30. The total tonnage for the year was 285,071 tons, being an increase on that of last year of 23,802 tons.

31. As in 1900, the decrease was due to an outbreak of yellow fever in the Colony which prevented steamers from calling here, so the increase in 1901 is due to Bathurst having been a clean port throughout the year.

32. The following return gives the total shipping for the last two years:—

Nationality of Vessels.	1900.			1901.		
	Steamers	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
British	197,935	164	198,099	220,016	82	220,098
French	27,155	3,251	30,406	29,433	3,374	32,807
German	5,471	—	5,471	5,867	—	5,867

GAMBIA,
1901.

E.—Shipping—cont.

Nationality of Vessels.	1900.			1901.		
	Steamers	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
Belgian	1,000	—	1,000	—	—	—
Russian	1,548	—	1,548	3,868	—	3,868
American	—	2,200	2,200	—	4,459	4,459
Norwegian	3,952	—	3,952	3,880	—	3,880
Italian	3,792	—	3,792	—	—	—
Austrian	—	—	—	5,408	1,602	7,010
Greek	8,682	—	8,682	—	—	—
Swedish	1,622	—	1,622	—	—	—
Dutch	—	—	—	2,306	—	2,306
Danish	—	—	—	1,883	—	1,883
Spanish	2,396	—	2,396	—	—	—
Portuguese	—	2,101	2,101	—	2,893	2,893
Total... ..	253,553	7,716	261,269	272,661	12,410	285,071

33. The total shipping inwards and outwards for the last five years was as under:—

Years.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1897... ..	164,939	93,459	258,398
1898... ..	225,385	102,760	328,145
1899... ..	210,690	73,945	284,635
1900... ..	198,099	63,170	261,269
1901... ..	220,098	64,973	285,071
Total	1,019,211	398,307	1,417,518

III.—LEGISLATION.

GAMBIA,
1901.

34. Nineteen ordinances were passed during the year, the more important being No. 3, "The Political Prisoners (Detention and Deportation) Ordinance, 1901," which conferred on the Governor power to detain and deport sundry persons who had been privy to the murders of the two Travelling Commissioners in the previous year, and had subsequently been guilty of various acts of an insurrectionary nature. Ordinance No. 9, entitled "The Supreme Court (Amendment) Ordinance, 1901," which re-imposes the requirement that jurors must be able to read and write English, it having been found by experience that former jurors, although understanding "Pigeon English," were quite incapable of following the evidence of educated witnesses or the addresses of counsel, or the summing up of the judge. It further introduces a property qualification, but at a greatly reduced rate, ownership being reduced from £30 to £7, and that of occupation from £40 to £10. Ordinance No. 10, "The Public Lands (Acquisition) Ordinance, 1901," vesting in the Governor the power of granting lands or of acquiring the same for public purposes. Ordinance No. 11, "The Sales by Auction Ordinance," which brings the law more into conformity with modern requirements, experience having shown the old law of 1865 to be seriously defective in its control over the proceedings of auctioneers. Ordinance No. 13, "The Hospitals and Dispensaries Ordinance, 1901," which was found necessary in view of the fact that the Gambia was without any ordinance governing hospitals, etc. Ordinance No. 14, "The Prevention of Contagious Diseases Ordinance, 1901," which brought into force regulations more in accordance with the principles laid down at the Venice Conference.

IV.—EDUCATION.

35. There are five primary schools in Bathurst, and one at McCarthy Island, all of which may be classed as "Assisted Schools." They are established by and are under the management of various religious denominations (Anglican, Roman Catholic, and Wesleyan), receiving grants-in-aid from the Government in proportion to educational results. The number of children on the school rolls is 879, the average attendance being 705. The amount of grant-in-aid earned during the year was £458.

36. Hitherto the Gambia has shared with Sierra Leone the services of an Inspector of Schools, but owing to the arrangement working unsatisfactorily, and for other reasons, the services of the Inspector, so far as Gambia was concerned, were terminated at the close of the year, other arrangements being made for the future examination of the schools.

GAMBIA,
1901.

SECONDARY EDUCATION.

37. During the year a secondary school was established by the Wesleyan Missionary Society, which has an average attendance of about 12 scholars.

C.—INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL, AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

38. There are no schools of this nature in the Colony. During the year, however, the Wesleyan Missionary Society submitted a scheme for the establishment of an Industrial School at Bathurst. The proposals were, that, in consideration of a Government grant to the society of £300 per annum, the society would provide a workshop with suitable tools for giving practical instruction in carpentry, masonry, and blacksmithing, and additional trades if necessary, to pupils, irrespective of religious denominations. The society also undertook to provide the necessary staff with a European instructor, who would have charge of the school. The scheme was accepted by the Government and efforts were made to open the school during the year, but the difficulty was to secure the services of a suitable instructor. It is hoped, however, that before the close of 1902 this difficulty will have been overcome and the school established. There is no doubt that such a school is much required and will prove of inestimable value to the Colony which possesses few competent workmen, although the rate of wage paid should entitle employers to skilled mechanics.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

A.—HOSPITALS.

39. There are two Government hospitals in the Colony, a general hospital and a contagious diseases hospital. The former has accommodation for 34 patients, and the latter accommodation for 10 patients.

40. The general hospital is an old building, but a large sum has been voted towards enlarging it and putting it into a thorough state of repair, which work, it is hoped, will be completed during 1902.

41. A new bungalow for the female patients is being erected near to the main building, and, it is hoped, will be ready for occupation in 1902.

42. The total number of in-patients at the hospital during the year were 598, and of out-patients, 4,010; an increase of 377 and 2,270 on the numbers for the previous year. The women

and children, about 250 in number, belonging to the Central African Regiment, who were quartered here during the early part of the year, and the detachment of the West India Regiment, stationed here from April to the close of the year, are largely responsible for this increase.

GAMBIA,
1901.

43. Owing to the appointment of a Protectorate Medical Officer it was found possible towards the close of the year to establish a dispensary at McCarthy Island, a station 150 miles up the river. As soon as the natives realise its benefits there is no doubt that they will gladly avail themselves of it.

B. C. AND D.

44. There are no asylums, poor houses or reformatories in the Colony. Any lunatics are sent to the Kissy Asylum at Sierra Leone.

E.—SAVINGS BANKS.

45. There is only one savings bank in the Colony. The total amount on deposit on the 31st December, 1901, was £5,019 for 238 depositors. The amount deposited during the year was £2,639, and the amount withdrawn £1,912.

46. The savings bank is, I am afraid, made use of by the depositors more as a place for the safe keeping of their money than with any idea of thrift, it being quite a common practice for clerks to deposit their salaries at the end of the month and to draw the money out the following month in small sums as they require it to meet their housekeeping expenses. The advantages of the bank have been frequently explained to the chiefs in the Protectorate, but only one man could be induced to open an account. This he did by depositing ten shillings, but at the end of six weeks he asked for the money to be returned for him to see, as he was afraid the Treasury officers might have "chopped" it. He did not continue his account.

47. There are thirty-three Friendly Societies registered in the Colony, having a total sum of £589 standing to their credit. The majority of them give relief and assistance to members in case of sickness or death, and in their way are of much good.

GAMBIA,
1901.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

A.—POLICE.

48. The Police Force consists of a superintendent, an assistant-superintendent, both Europeans, and 100 of other ranks. The men are trained to the use of arms, and may be regarded as a semi-military force. They are armed with Martini-Enfield carbines and have 3 seven-pounder R.M.L. guns. A portion of the force is stationed at McCarthy Island and other places in the Protectorate, leaving about 75 men available for duty in Bathurst. The expenditure of the Force for 1900 was £4,584.

B.—PRISONS.

49. There is only one prison in the Colony and that is at Bathurst, the capital. It has accommodation for 38 prisoners, 31 male and 7 female. The daily average number of prisoners during the year was 14. There were no escapes or deaths in the prison during the year, nor were there any floggings.

50. The present buildings are very old, but are kept in an excellent state of repair. It has long been in contemplation to build a new gaol but the work has not yet been begun, nor would it for the moment appear to be necessary, looking to the large expenditure which would be involved. The present prison with its small number of inmates answers its purpose very well.

51. The total cost of the prison during the year was £803, as compared with £680 in 1900.

C.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

52. There was apparently a considerable increase in crime during the year judging by the fact that there were 361 persons charged with offences in 1901, as compared with 140 in 1900. The increase may, however, be attributed to greater activity on the part of the police.

53. The principal event in the criminal proceedings of the year was undoubtedly the trial of three men for the murder of the two Travelling Commissioners at Sankandi, in the previous year. The charge was fully proved against the accused, who paid the full penalty demanded by law.

54. In the Supreme Court 9 cases were tried, convictions being obtained in 7 of the cases. In the Police Court the number of convictions was 260 and acquittals 88. The convictions were mainly for "committing nuisance in public."

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

GAMBIA,
1901.

55. A Census was taken in the Colony on the 1st of April, with the following results:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
	7,383	6,073	13,456

a total decrease of 810 as compared with the Census taken in 1891.

56. A Census of the Protectorate was also taken this year for the first time, with the following result:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
	36,552	40,396	76,948

This return can only be regarded as approximate, as many of the natives, being under the impression that the numbering of the people meant the imposing of a poll tax, ran across the boundary to French territory. Allowing for these absentees, I think that the population of the Protectorate may fairly be estimated at 90,000.

57. The actual returns show a total population of 90,404 for the Colony and Protectorate. There were 348 births and 380 deaths; of the latter, 4 were Europeans—2 official and 2 non-official. The death rate for the year was very favourable compared with 1900, when the total number of deaths was 431, of which 9 were Europeans.

B.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

58. The general health of the Colony was good during the year.

C.—SANITATION.

59. Only in Bathurst are any sanitary measures attempted. In the cleanliness of the streets, drains, and compounds, this town compares most favourably with others on the West Coast of Africa. The work is carried out, under the Board of Health, by an Inspector of Nuisances and several gangs of scavengers

GAMBIA,
1901.

who go round daily, making house to house collections of refuse and rubbish which are carted outside the town, and burnt. Many of the streets and drains are in a far from perfect condition. The matter, however, is receiving attention, and, so soon as a scheme of drainage has been formulated and sanctioned, it is hoped that there will be a marked improvement in this direction.

60. During the year, Dr. Everett Dutton, from the Liverpool Tropical School, arrived in the Colony with a view to making a survey of the town and discovering the breeding places of the mosquitoes. Although he arrived rather too late in the season to find the mosquitoes in perfection, innumerable larvæ (*anopheles* and *culex*) were discovered in the many old boats and canoes lying along the beach in front of the main street, also in the shallow uncemented brick drains and in the ordinary grass-grown ditches or drains which are still found in the town. Perhaps one of the worst of the latter begins in Government House grounds, and runs along at the back of the hospital into some low-lying land. Collections of old pots, pans, etc., were also found to be favourable breeding places of the *anopheles*, and, in this respect, the compounds of the European and native merchants were by far the worst; but, on the matter being represented to them, they readily assisted the Board of Health in getting rid of all rubbish which, in its turn, was used for filling up some of the drains pointed out by Dr. Dutton as a source of danger. In this way, about 250 cart-loads of rubbish were utilised. The compounds of the poorer class natives were on the whole clean and tidy.

D.—CLIMATE.

61. The climate of the Gambia differs in many respects from that of the other West African colonies. For eight consecutive months in the year, viz., from November to May, inclusive, practically no rain falls. During these months the weather is often pleasantly cool, the thermometer sometimes registering as low as 57 degrees at 7 a.m. The variations in temperature are somewhat trying, however, often ranging from 30 to 40 degrees between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m.

62. The rainfall for the year was 45·31 inches, which was about 5 inches below the average.

63. The average maximum temperature in the shade was 94·5 degrees, the average minimum being 63·10 degrees.

64. No record is kept of the direction and force of the wind.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICES. GAMBIA,
1901.

65. There is a fortnightly service of mail steamers to and from England, which also carry mails to and from other places on the leeward coast. There is an inland weekly postal service, for which mails are made up for McCarthy Island and intermediate stations, the former being 150 miles from Bathurst. These mails are carried by the Government steamer "Mansah Kilah," or "King's Messenger."

TELEGRAPHS.

66. No inland telegraph service exists in the Colony. There is direct telegraphic communication with Europe *via* St. Vincent, and also with the other West African colonies.

TELEPHONES.

67. During the year telephones have been introduced into Bathurst on a small scale—Government House, the Colonial Secretary's office, and the Treasury being placed in communication. The distance covered is about one mile. It is proposed to extend the system to other Government offices at an early date.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

68. During the year a detachment of the 3rd West India Regiment was stationed at Bathurst, but in view of its early withdrawal to Sierra Leone it was decided to raise a Gambia company of the West African Frontier Force. With this object in view, three European officers of the Imperial Forces, accompanied by two non-commissioned officers and a medical officer, arrived in the Colony in December and commenced the work of recruiting. The necessary number of men was easily obtained, and, notwithstanding the short time they have been under drill, already show promise of becoming a smart, soldier-like force. The force is composed of 120 men, 40 taken from tribes in the Gambia, and 80 men taken from the tribes around Sierra Leone.

69. The expenditure incurred on account of the force during the year amounted to £1,064.

SEMI-MILITARY FORCE.

70. The Police Force, which is a semi-military force, has already been referred to in paragraph 48 of this Report

GAMBIA,
1901.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

71. The most important event that occurred during the year was the arrival of the Expeditionary Force in January to punish the towns implicated in the murder of the two Travelling Commissioners and six constables in the previous year, and to stamp out the spirit of rebellion which had spread throughout the Protectorate consequent on the people immediately connected with the murders being allowed to go unpunished for so long, the ringleaders declaring that the country had been given back to them and that native rule would replace English law. The expedition was most successful in its object. Three of the men actually guilty of the murders were captured, and after a careful trial paid the full penalty of the law, and five of the leaders in the movement of opposition to the Government were deported to Sierra Leone. The Force marched throughout the length and breadth of the Protectorate without the least opposition except at Dumbutu, which was the first rebel town visited and destroyed.

72. The presence of so large a body of men has had a most wholesome effect, the Protectorate resuming its normal peaceful condition in a very short time. When now spoken to on the subject the chiefs smile, and ask themselves how they and their people could ever have been so foolish as to take up the stand they did against the Government.

73. Another event of much importance was the agreement signed in June last by King Moussa Molloh and Sir George Denton, in which the former agreed (1) that that portion of his kingdom lying within the British sphere of influence should form part of the Protectorate of the Gambia, (2) that a British officer should be placed in charge thereof, (3) that no buying, selling, nor trafficking in slaves should be permitted, (4) to discontinue and put a stop to all practices and punishments repugnant to the laws of humanity and civilization, and (5) to authorise the Governor to impose and collect a hut tax in that part of the Protectorate. In consideration of these conditions, the Government agreed to pay Moussa Molloh the sum of £500 per annum. The event is important as completing the boundary of the Protectorate as well as from the fact that hitherto it had been considered that such an agreement could not be brought about during Moussa Molloh's lifetime.

74. The work of filling up the Half Die swamp was continued during the year. No other public works of importance were undertaken, the whole attention of the Colonial Engineer's department being given to the present Government buildings which were in a very bad state of repair.

75. His Excellency Sir George Denton, K.C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor of Lagos, who had been appointed in October, 1900,

to succeed Sir Robert Llewelyn, K.C.M.G., as Administrator, arrived in the Colony with the expedition on the 10th of January and assumed the administration of the Government. In March, the Colony was raised to the rank of a Governorship, Sir George Denton being appointed the first Governor.

GAMBIA,
1901.

76. During the year two pensioners, Mr. J. R. Maxwell, formerly chief magistrate, and Mr. Syrett, formerly postmaster, died. The Colony has also to regret the deaths of Mr. Percy E. Wainwright, and Mr. B. Marshall, Travelling Commissioners. The former had been in the service of the Colony for five years, and had done valuable work in the Protectorate. The latter was on his first visit to West Africa, and had only been in the Colony four months. The death of Mr. Cates, Registrar and Clerk of Courts, has also to be recorded.

77. The climate of the Gambia, like that of other West African colonies, is unhealthy for Europeans, although perhaps in a less degree. It is impossible to employ white labour in the Colony.

78. The cost of living in the Gambia is much higher for both Europeans and Africans than in any of the other West Coast colonies. For example, as pointed out last year, a case of Sauerbrunnen, which could be bought at Lagos for 15s., costs 25s. in Bathurst. However, the price has now been brought down to 21s., and it is hoped that a reference to it this year will result in a further reduction, and cause merchants to consider whether it would not be to their interest to lower the prices of articles of every-day consumption so as to induce consumers to obtain their stores locally, instead of importing direct from Europe.

79. The rates of wages are high, an ordinary labourer being paid at the rate of 1s. 3d. a day, which, in the ground-nut season, when steamers have to be loaded and labour is scarce, is raised to as much as 2s. a day. The wages of mechanics are proportionately high, while their work is of a very poor quality. Owing to the high cost of living, it is difficult to induce good workmen from the other colonies to come to the Gambia.

80. Owing to the failure of the ground-nut crop from want of sufficient rain and the destruction of their food crops by locusts, the natives in the Protectorate began to feel the pinch of famine early in the year. Their position was made worse from the fact that the merchants, who in former years had given out credits of rice, etc., to tide the people over the rains, at the close of which the first corn is ripe for gathering, decided to discontinue the practice. Already the people had begun to hunt in the forests for roots and berries, and to pawn and sell their clothing, many being reduced to wearing rice-bags as their sole covering. It was seen that something must be done and that quickly, otherwise their condition would become serious. The Government was, therefore, compelled to come to the rescue, and at

GAMBIA
1901.

once purchased and issued nearly four thousand bags of rice, which, it is satisfactory to record, at the time of writing, have, with the exception of 29 bags, all been repaid without any trouble, the natives on all sides expressing their gratitude for the help rendered to them by the Government at a critical time, and asserting with truth that, but for the timely assistance, many of them must have died from starvation during the rains.

81. It may not be without interest to note that for the first time since the Island of St. Mary was made a settlement by British merchants in 1816, an Anglican church has been erected in Bathurst. For over half a century the Anglican community had no better place of worship than an old disused officers' mess-room, and more recently the services had been held in a ground-nut store. The present building is a fine, handsome structure, capable of seating a congregation of 400. The church was completed in sufficient time to allow of its being consecrated on the 24th of December by the Right Reverend John Taylor Smith, Bishop of Sierra Leone, which was his last act in his episcopal See before taking over his duties as Chaplain-General to His Majesty's Forces. On Christmas Day the church was opened for public worship.

82. I cannot close this report without referring to the great grief shared by this Colony with the rest of the British Empire on the occasion of the death of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, which sad event took place on the 22nd January. A memorial service was held in McCarthy Square by the Bishop of the diocese, which was largely attended by all sections of the community.

H. M. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH.

17th May, 1902.

APPENDIX.

Governor Sir G. C. DENTON to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

GAMBIA
1901.Government House,
Bathurst, Gambia,

APPENDIX.

10th February, 1902.

(Extract.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to state that I left Bathurst on the morning of the 7th January and proceeded to Tendaba, where, unfortunately, I arrived too late to go over to Quinella that evening.

2. The next morning at daybreak I started for Quinella to inspect the Camp which is being established there as a temporary measure for the West African Frontier Force. I found that good progress had been made with it, and that it will be finished within a very few days. It is very well situated, and will make an excellent training ground for the recruits, some 30 in number, who have been enrolled in the Gambia. These men I saw, and am glad to report that they promise well. They were fitted with their clothing but had not yet been given their arms and accoutrements. The officers at Quinella are Lieutenant Morley, Dr. Hopkinson, and Colour-sergeant Wheatcroft. Captain Graham, Lieutenant Hoskyns, and Sergeant Noble having proceeded to Sierra Leone to bring back with them the 90 men of the West African Frontier Force from that Colony who are required to complete the Gambia Company.

3. I left Tendaba at 10 a.m. on the 8th, and reached Elephant Island about 10 p.m. that evening, when the "Mansah Kilah" anchored.

4. We went off as soon as it was light enough to see, reaching McCarthy Island at 8.30, where we stopped for about a quarter of an hour, and proceeded to Misera Wharf, arriving there at 3.

Here Mr. Stanley met me, and at about 4 I landed and went up to Misera, the principal town of Sandu, where Jimbermang lives, the "Mansah Kilah" returning to Bathurst.

5. Jimbermang welcomed me very warmly, and told me everything was going on well, that the people were contented and happy, and things had been very quiet whilst I was away. It was just the end of the big Mahommedan Fast, and as it had been rigidly kept by this Chief and his people, who are strict followers of the prophet, there was a general appearance of hard times which will vanish very rapidly when the feasting which follows the fasting commences.

GAMBIA,
1901.

APPENDIX.

6. On the 11th, about 4 p.m., I held a palaver of all the Chiefs of Sandu. They had nothing to say to me on education and the cultivation of their lands, agreeing with what I told them, and promising to bring more land under ground-nut cultivation next season. But when I came to vaccination things were different. I mentioned that Dr. Maxwell Adams would shortly visit their country, and I explained to them the object of it (vaccination), and this they understood readily, having been in the habit of inoculating their children for many years as a prevention against small-pox. They, however, told me they hoped I would not insist on it. They could give no reasons for objecting to it except that it was new. I assured them I would not force it on them, but took care to impress on them the great protection it would afford them and their children from small-pox, and I also assured them that it was attended with no danger, that it would give them little or no pain at the time it was done, and that the trifling inconvenience it would occasion them would all pass off in a fortnight.

7. Great attention was paid to what I said, and, I believe, if Dr. Maxwell Adams is careful not to arouse their prejudices, and is conciliatory in his methods, he will soon obtain the confidence of the Chiefs, and will at any rate be permitted to vaccinate the children, which is the principal point.

8. I may here mention that Dr. Hopkinson is commencing vaccination in Quinella and its neighbourhood, and I have great hopes that he will be successful in his endeavours.

9. In the evening of this day (11th ultimo), the new moon which terminates the fast was seen, and I at once went down and called on Jimbermang; although I was with him within five minutes of the firing of the gun announcing that the fast was over he had already commenced his feast.

10. One incident occurred whilst I was at Misera which to me personally was of great interest. About 4 p.m. on the day preceding my departure a messenger came to me from Jimbermang, saying that if I would allow it the Alimamy and Elders of the town wished to call upon me and pray for me. I, of course, gave my consent, and in about half-an-hour they appeared, and after the customary compliments had passed between us, the Alcaide, or Headman, offered up a prayer, partly in Arabic and partly in Mandingo, of which the following is the best translation I could arrive at:—"To our Father who art in Heaven. We, followers of the Prophet Mahommed, ask God's blessing on you, and hope God will give you long life. May God make your time here a pleasant and a peaceful time. May God give you and your family long life. Whenever you go to Europe and return here, may you find peace and blessing."

11. I must admit that I was much flattered by this attention, which was entirely novel to me, though I have lived amongst Mahomedan peoples for the greater part of the last

28 years, and have for the most part been on intimate and friendly terms with them.

GAMBIA,
1901.

APPENDIX

12. I left Misera at 6.30 a.m. on the 13th, reaching Yoruba Wul after a march of about three hours. Yoruba Wul is a Foulah village containing some 400 inhabitants, who, looking to the amount of cultivation which surrounds it, must be very industrious in their habits. They are also good herdsmen, and have about 200 head of cattle. Here I stayed the night; going on the morning of the 14th to Bantoding, where I was very cordially received by Chief N'Yakudu.

13. I stayed at Bantoding until the morning of the 17th, and had several interviews with N'Yakudu. This Chief has some 30 villages under him, and is much liked by his people, whom he treats liberally and with justice. Absolutely no complaints were made to me, and it is clear that both Sandu and Wuli are now quiet and at rest. The arrangement with regard to the boundary between the two places, which was arrived at in April last, is working satisfactorily. N'Yakudu is quite contented with it, and if Jimbermang has not enlarged Sandu as much as he intended at the expense of Wuli he is wise enough to keep quiet on the subject; his attitude in the matter being, I believe, a good deal due to the fact that he knows the people are for N'Yakudu.

14. I left Bantoding at 6.30 a.m. on the 17th, arriving at Koina Wharf at 10.30 a.m. The towns passed through were Marsuto, Sutuko, Berif, and Fulahkunda. As I had seen the Chiefs and Elders of these places at Bantoding on the previous day, I only made a very short stay in them, the longest stop being at Berif for 45 minutes.

15. The river at Koina Wharf, which is about two miles from the Anglo-French boundary, is about 200 yards wide, and runs between banks quite 20 feet in height. It is between two and three fathoms deep here, and is a magnificent waterway; it might easily be made navigable for vessels drawing 10 to 12 feet to this point. The distance from Koina Wharf to Bathurst is about 270 miles.

Fortunately a cutter loading ground-nuts was lying at the wharf, and I was able to borrow her boat, and in this got across my party very speedily. Had the river transport been confined to the only canoe to be found at this place, crossing would have been a very tedious and lengthy affair.

16. From Koina Wharf I proceeded to Koina Village, which is distant two miles from the river, on the south bank, and stayed there the night. It is in Kantora, and has about 450 inhabitants, who are almost entirely Mandingoes and Mahomedans. Koina itself is a poor place, but the surrounding country is well cultivated, and I am told that the ground-nuts from this part of the Protectorate are of very good quality.

GAMBIA,
1901.
—
APPENDIX.

17. About 8.30 a.m. on the 18th I reached Sunkunda, the distance from Koina being only about seven miles. This town is the capital of Kantora, and at it the head Chief, Manjang by name, lives. It has a population of about 800, and it is fairly prosperous for this part of the world.

18. In my despatch of the 14th April, 1901, I mentioned that I had, under the power given to the Administrator by section 40 of the Protectorate Ordinance, directed an old and troublesome Chief named Sunto Koma Sanyan and his grandson to reside at Bantoding. When with N'Yakudu I saw both these men, and they begged to be allowed to return to their village, Farintunba. As the reports I received of their conduct were excellent, and as they promised to behave themselves and be guided by what Manjang told them in every way, I consider they have been sufficiently punished, and I have therefore permitted them to go back to their home, and I do not anticipate any trouble from them in the future.

19. The villages which lie on the road between Koina and Sunkunda are called Keneba, Jowokunda, Farintunba, and Kasirikunda, and are all small and of very little importance.

20. On the 19th I held a palaver at Sunkunda, to which Manjang had called the heads of the different Kantora villages. Everything passed off very satisfactorily, the only question raised being that of the boundary between Kantora and Fulladu. The Simotu Creek has been generally recognised as the western limit of Kantora, but Manjang said he had not sufficient land for his people, and asked that he might be allowed to make farms beyond it. I told him this could not be permitted, as that would be encroaching on Musa Molloh's country, and he did not press the point, in which from the first he seemed only to take a very half-hearted interest.

21. We left Sunkunda at 6.30, and went on to Tuba Kouta, a distance of about 10 miles, where I was met by N'Farli Cora, the stipend Chief for the eastern portion of Fulladu. The country through which we passed was well cultivated, and I was glad to learn that a good crop of food-stuffs had been collected, and that the ground-nut crop was expected to be fully up to the average in both quality and quantity.

22. The village of Tuba Kouta is only about three-quarters of a mile to the west of the boundary, so that my remarks as to crops, etc., apply almost entirely to Kantora. I may say that I was very agreeably surprised with what I saw in this district. I was told that the people were to a great extent Soninkes, and given over to drunkenness, but, as far as I was able to judge, the contrary is the case. Nearly all I saw were Mahommedans, intelligent and alert in appearance, and the quantity of land under cultivation bears testimony to their energy and industry. It is commonly said by the European merchants in Bathurst that as soon as a Soninke becomes a Marabout he gives up all

active pursuits, and is lazy and idle, but this does not appear to be true in this case, as I consider the people of Kantora, who have only recently embraced Mahommedanism, are decidedly improved in every way by their change in faith, and are now quite amongst the best class of natives we have in the Protectorate.

GAMBIA,
1901.
—
APPENDIX

23. The march from Tuba Kouta to Tambasansan was rather a trying one, though the road was good. Again the country through which we passed shewed signs of industry and energy on the part of its inhabitants, and I was glad to see a certain amount of cotton planted and well tended. At present the quantity produced is only sufficient to supply home wants, but this could easily be increased, and I am in hopes that with encouragement the industry may in time assume fair dimensions, and make a material addition to the exports from the Colony.

24. On the 23rd, I met the Headmen of the principal villages in Eastern Fulladu, and explained to them the position which the British Government now occupied in their country. One and all expressed their satisfaction with the changes which were brought about in June last by the Agreement with Musa Molloh, and they were evidently very pleased that in future they would be free from the exactions this Chief used to impose on them. The inhabitants of this part of the Protectorate are Mandingoes and Fulahs, and appear to me to be a quiet, peaceable lot. I have great hopes that with a settled form of government, under which justice is readily obtainable, Fulladu will progress and very rapidly become prosperous.

25. Tambasansan, where N'Farli Cora lives, is a town with about 550 inhabitants. It is well kept, as native towns go, and N'Farli himself is one of the richest men outside Bathurst. He is essentially a worker, and manages his different farms himself. I am told that he is very popular with his people, and—a wonderful thing in a rich native—never oppresses them, being very liberal in all his dealings with them. Altogether I regard him as the best type of native Chief I have met on the Gambia. Although not so great a man as Musa Molloh by birth and position, he is equal in intelligence, and superior to him in a sense of justice and honesty.

26. I left Tambasansan on the morning of the 27th, and reached Basse, a large Fulah town, whose Headman is named Mansah Jang, a little after 8 a.m. Again the country through which we passed had been cultivated far more than is the case generally, and the people had a prosperous and well-to-do appearance. Mansah Jang is a rich man, and owns large herds of cattle. He did not strike me as particularly intelligent, and I believe his health is not good. For these reasons his influence is not so great as it might be. He, however, accepts N'Farli Cora as his head Chief without question, and is glad to come under the British Government, so will give no trouble.

GAMBIA,
1901.
APPENDIX.

27. I reached Gambisara on the morning of the 28th, and was very well received by the Headman and his Elders. This town is situated immediately on the boundary line between the British and French spheres of influence; in fact, at the time of the agreement with Musa Molloh was concluded a large portion of it was situated on the French side, but now the whole town, with the exception of four huts, has been removed to the English side. Gambisara has a population of between 1,500 and 2,000, and has, within about a mile of it, another large Serahouli town called Numuyelle. It may perhaps be well to explain that Serahouli is a term applied to a people who come from a country called Tilibo, lying to the east of the Gambia Protectorate, who are a distinct tribe from either Mandingoes, Joloffs, or Fulahs, and speak a different language. They are good Mahomedans, and there are amongst them many craftsmen, such as workers in leather, goldsmiths, makers of wooden bowls and canoes, blacksmiths, and weavers of native cloths. They are said to pay large dowries for their wives, and are supposed to have a higher sense of morality in their domestic relations than is generally found amongst the natives of West Africa. They are industrious and peaceable, and do much for the places in which they live.

28. It was my desire to have had a meeting with Musa Molloh at Gambisara, but the French authorities did not see their way to allow him to come to me just now, so I was obliged to transact the business I had with him by letter, and this I have dealt with separately. I may, however, mention that I held a palaver at this place which was very fully attended, and at which both Dembo Danso and N'Farli Cora were present. In deference to the wishes of the Serahoulis, I sanctioned these towns (i.e., Gambisara and Numuyelle) being under the Headman of the former place, though, strictly speaking, they are within N'Farli Cora's district, but his jurisdiction is limited to the towns themselves and the land immediately adjoining them.

29. At the palaver there were general expressions of satisfaction that the rule of Musa Molloh had been replaced by that of the British Government, and everyone appeared pleased with the new arrangements. There were, of course, some who wanted more than they got, but on the whole they were well contented, and even those whose demands were not satisfied in full felt that they had obtained more than they would ever have received under the old régime, and I do not think there is the least chance of their leaving the British sphere of influence for the French.

30. Gambisara and Numuyelle have a great local reputation for their country cloths, but I cannot say I was much impressed with them. They use both English and native yarn in their manufacture, and certainly produce a strong, soft cloth, but the strips in which they are woven are very narrow, and they compare

very unfavourably with those made in the Yoruba country, both in design and texture.

GAMBIA,
1901.

APPENDIX

31. Early in the morning of the 31st, before we left Gambisara, I regret to say, Mr. Tracy, who was in command of the escort of the West Indian Regiment which accompanied me, developed blackwater fever, and, unfortunately, there was no doctor near to attend to him. Under the circumstances, the best thing to be done with him was to send him at once to Bathurst, and, as the "Mansah Kilah" met me at Kossema, I was, by a great stroke of good fortune, able to put him into hospital within 48 hours of the disease first showing itself. Though very seriously ill, and at one time in a very critical condition, after he reached Bathurst, Mr. Tracy has, I am glad to say, recovered, and proceeds to England by the next steamer. The type of fever from which he suffered has, I regret to say, been very prevalent since my return to the Colony, no less than five cases having occurred since the 10th November last. At the present moment Mr. Ozanne is in hospital with it, but is, I am glad to say, doing well.

32. From Kossema I proceeded by the steamer to McCarthy Island, disembarking there at 9.30 p.m. on the 31st. The 1st of February I spent in McCarthy Island, going into several matters with the Commissioner of this part of the Protectorate, Mr. McCallum, whose district I hope to go through before long.

33. On the 2nd February I went to Boraba, the largest town in Western Fulladu, and the place where Dembo Danso resides. Here I remained until the 4th February, and on the 3rd I held a large meeting of the people, and explained to them the conditions under which the Government of British Fulladu would in future be administered.

34. At first, one or two of the Fulah towns evinced a strong opposition to being placed under Dembo Danso, no doubt due to the fact that in the past he had been Musa Molloh's principal agent; but when I explained to them that under the existing condition of affairs he was directly subordinate to the Commissioner, who again was responsible to me, and would report everything that occurred to me, they gave way and accepted him with a very good grace, and I have no doubt myself that he will make an excellent Headman, as he is a very careful, capable, and intelligent man.

35. This completed the arrangements I had to make for Fulladu, and I am glad to say they have, I consider, been brought to a very successful conclusion. Under the more liberal conditions of Government which now exist, Fulladu will, I feel sure, develop very considerably, and, as the soil is fertile and well-suited to both cotton and ground-nuts, as well as foodstuffs, I hope before long to see the exports from this part of the Protectorate increase very considerably.

GAMBIA,
1901.
—
APPENDIX.

36. The difficult question will be that of labour, as is always the case in newly-acquired territories in West Africa, but I trust that many people will be tempted to come when they find out that under British protection they are not required to pay exorbitant taxes, are subject only to humane and just punishments for any offences they may commit, and are allowed to reap the full benefit of their labours.

37. From Boraba I proceeded to Kai Hai, and inspected the work there, which is progressing satisfactorily, as far as I am able to judge, but I propose, when I have had time to discuss the matter with the Colonial Engineer, to address you separately on this subject.

38. On my way down the river, I stopped at Tendaba, and again visited Quinella in order that I might see the West African Frontier Force established in its camp. The Chief of Quinella, Fodi by name, whom I have mentioned to you in other despatches, has done excellent work, and, though the stationing of soldiers was at first by no means agreeable to him, has given the Government every assistance in his power. Under cover of another despatch I have forwarded a report on the West African Frontier Force, by Captain Graham, with my remarks, and I need say no more on this subject here.

39. Generally, I beg to say I am pleased with the state of affairs in the upper river. The crops of foodstuffs have, with very few exceptions, been good, and the ground-nuts are heavy and fairly abundant. Judging by what is told me, I think we may well expect as good a crop of this product this year as was obtained last year, perhaps better, and this means that the revenue from all sources will be much about the same.

40. One thing that I noticed on this visit was the progress which Mahommenadism is making in this part of the world. But a very little time ago the Soninkes were very numerous, as also were the Pagan Fulahs; now every day the Marabouts are increasing, and before long they will number three-quarters at least of the population. This, I think, will on the whole be of decided advantage to the Colony, though the revenue from the spirit trade, never a large amount on the Gambia, will fall off, no doubt, but it will, I believe, be possible to make up the sum lost from other sources.

41. Another matter which particularly struck me was the difficulty in obtaining efficient interpretation. I have already touched on this in paragraph 11 of my despatch, No. 124, of the 27th June last, and I am pleased to say two at least of the Commissioners will, I hope, pass the proposed examination in Mandingo before they go on leave. But the main trouble is that so few of those of the class from which interpreters should be obtained know Mandingo really well, and when they are thoroughly acquainted with it and the different dialects their English is frequently very defective.

42. This is a very great drawback, and makes the political work very difficult. The only remedy I can think of is to offer special inducements to the schools to prepare boys for the position of interpreter, and on this I hope to address you more fully at an early date.

GAMBIA,
1901.
APPENDIX.

43. I consider that Mr. Stanley deserves great credit for the work he has done, and is doing, in his district. He is evidently on very good terms with the people, and has brought in many reforms with very little friction. He has also nearly completed the details of an excellent map of both north and south banks, and has made himself well acquainted with all parts of his district.

44. The roads over which I passed compare favourably with those of native construction in Yoruba land, and within the next few months, that is before the rainy season, the different creeks will have strong native bridges across them. I only used a hammock for about two miles, riding on horseback for the rest of the way, and, with the exception of two creeks which were too deep to ford, I had only to dismount at the regular halting places. Some of the horses are excellent, and are bigger than those I have hitherto seen in West Africa. For instance, two I rode in Fulladu were nearly 15 hands in height, and capital hacks, but the price paid for them is much larger than what I have been accustomed to, £40 being the cost of one of them and £60 of the other. These were, of course, exceptionally good beasts, and very different from the ordinary six to ten pound horse which one sees in Bathurst.

We managed to get a little shooting at times, the bag consisting of 254 bush fowl or partridge (*francolinus piliatus*), 65 sand grouse or Barbary quail (*pterocles arenarius*), 3 small bustard, 2 hares, 13 Guinea birds, 2 button quail, 6 pigeon, 2 painted snipe, and 1 antelope. As far as large game is concerned, a hippo. was shot by Mr. Stanley at Misera two days before our arrival there, and last September a lion was shot by a native hunter at Tambasansan. Had one the time to give to it, I believe excellent sport could be obtained at certain seasons of the year on the Gambia river, as in the marshes adjacent to it several kinds of antelope are to be found. In the adjoining French Protectorate elephants and giraffes are by no means rare, and, judging by the skins that are brought down by traders, lions are fairly plentiful.

46. I forward a tracing of Mr. Stanley's map,* showing the route I took during my tour. The distance traversed is only a little over 100 miles, and I wish that I could have gone from Gambisara to Boroba, which is about one-and-a-half miles from the river, on the south bank, opposite McCarthy Island, by road. The distance is only between 40 and 50 miles, but there are no villages of any size on the road, though the country is fertile and well cultivated, I am told, and it would have been impossible

* Not reproduced.

GAMBIA, 1901.
—
APPENDIX. to obtain carriers under the system in vogue here of taking them from town to town. This is an economical way of travelling, and really works wonderfully well on the whole, though it has the disadvantage of making your progress very slow when compared with what you could do with men hired by the day for the whole trip, as is the practice in Sierra Leone, the Gold Coast, and Lagos. Still the saving is very great, carriers, who would have received at least £150 in the colonies I have named, only costing me on this occasion about £20. And with this before me I cannot see my way to recommend any change at present.

47. In conclusion, I beg to say that everywhere I went I was received with great courtesy and attention, and I have every reason to think that both the Chiefs and people generally are contented and satisfied with their lot.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE C. DENTON,

Governor.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 342.

GIBRALTAR.

REPORT FOR 1900.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 305.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1901.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 118, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1901.

[Cd. 788-12.] *Price 1½d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
321	Lagos	1900
322	Bermuda	"
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados	"
327	Bahamas	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia	"
333	Seychelles... ..	"
334	Falkland Islands... ..	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
336	British New Guinea	1899-1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 342.

GIBRALTAR
1900.

GIBRALTAR.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 305.)

GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE S. WHITE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Gibraltar,

24th October, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book for 1900, together with a Report on the same by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

GEO. S. WHITE,

General and Governor.

REPORT ON THE GIBRALTAR BLUE BOOK FOR 1900.

I.—FINANCIAL.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The Revenue from all sources during the year 1900 amounted to £61,418, which, as compared with that of the previous year, shows a total increase of £1,464, though it fell short of the estimate by £1,308.

The Expenditure for the year, exclusive of the cost of electric light installation, was £61,812, against £59,520 in 1899, thus showing an increase of Expenditure of £2,292, and an excess over the estimate of £484.

The subjoined table shows the Revenue and Expenditure as compared with the previous year:—

c10190*—75—10/1901 Wt 25152 D & S—5

A 2

GIBRALTAR,
1900.

Revenue		1899.	1900.	Expenditure.	1899.	1900.
1. Customs	... ..	£ 18,245	£ 19,468	1. Establishments :—	£	£
				(a) Personal Emoluments	31,857	33,829
				(b) Other Charges	14,973	16,324
2 Port Dues and Wharfage	... ..	6,179	6,402	2. Pensions	1,966	2,119
3 Licenses and Internal Revenue	... ..	4,287	4,158	3. Ecclesiastical Grants	933	1,000
4. Fees and Reimbursements in Aid	... ..	15,359	16,189	4. Public Works, Ordinary	1,779	2,327
5. Post and Telegraph	... ..	9,191	8,654	5. " " Extraordinary	3,770	3,259
6. Rents of Government Property	... ..	5,931	5,885	6. Crown Agents	95	56
7. Interest on Investments	... ..	375	540	7. Charges on Debt	714	899
8. Miscellaneous	... ..	118	140	8. Miscellaneous	3,289	1,971
9. Gain on Exchange	... ..	269	32	9. Loss on Exchange	144	28
Total	... ..	£ 59,954	£ 61,418	Total	£ 59,520	£ 61,812

REVENUE.

GIBRALTAR,
1900.*Customs.*

The Customs receipts during the year amounted to £19,468, being £1,223 in excess of those for 1899.

The receipts for duty on spirits show an increase of £896, while those on wine show a decrease of £256, as compared with the previous year. The receipts for tobacco duty exceeded those of 1899 by £592.

Port Dues.

The receipts for Port Dues on vessels entering during the year show an increase of £159 over those for the previous year, and the Harbour and Wharf Dues exceeded those for 1899 by £63. The increase is due to a larger number of arrivals.

The number of steamers and sailing vessels entering the port during the year, as shown in the following table, increased by 123 and 103 respectively :—

	1899.		1900.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Sailing vessels	465	45,896	568	46,886	103	990	—	—
Steamers...	3,490	4,282,963	3,613	4,418,197	123	125,234	—	—

The number of steamers actually coaling, and the quantity of coal taken in 1900, as compared with the previous year, is shown in the following table :—

Year.					No. of Steamers.	Tons of Coal taken.
1899...	...	...	...	...	2,207	276,264
1900...	...	...	...	...	2,378	302,655
Increase					171	26,391

GIBRALTAR,
1900.

Licenses.

The total revenue derived from Licenses amounted in 1900 to £4,158, showing a decrease of £128 as compared with the previous year's receipts under this head. This is accounted for by the reduction in the number of Licenses granted.

Fees of Court, &c.

The total receipts under this head of revenue amounted to £16,189, or an increase of £830 over the amount received in 1899. The bonded store rents show an increase of £278 over those for 1899.

Savings Bank profits show a decrease of £1,791 owing to the profits for 1897-98 having been included in the receipts for 1899.

The Electric Light receipts show an increased revenue of £2,275 owing to increased installations.

Post Office and Telegraph.

The Post Office and Telegraph show a falling off of £537, chiefly due to a decrease in the sale of stamps at the Morocco agencies. The sale of these stamps for some time on their being over-printed was abnormal. Telegraph receipts decreased owing to diminished business.

Crown Property.

The revenue derived from Government rents amounted to £5,835, or a decrease of £96 as compared with the previous year.

Interest.

The receipts under this head amounted to £540, showing an increase of £165 as compared with 1899. This is due to interest received from the Sanitary Commissioners on account of an advance of £2,400 for cost of street lighting installation.

EXPENDITURE.

Establishments.

The total expenditure for the year for the upkeep of the public departments amounted to £50,153, or an increase of £3,323 on the previous year's expenditure, chiefly attributable to the salaries of public officers having been paid throughout 1900 at the revised scale, which took effect from May, 1899. The Colonial Hospital expenditure for 1900 on "Other Charges"

exceeded that of the previous year by £586, and the electric light establishment shows also an increased expenditure in fuel alone of £541. GIBRALTAR,
1900.

Public Works.

An increase of £548 is shown under the head of "Annually Recurrent" Works. This was chiefly incurred in painting and repairs of public buildings and renewal of a store room at the Colonial Hospital.

The expenditure on public works extraordinary was less by £511 than that of the previous year.

Miscellaneous.

The Miscellaneous Expenditure for 1900 shows a decrease of £1,318 as compared with 1899. This variation is owing to a portion of the expenditure on stationery and printing, which was formerly charged to Miscellaneous Services, being now debited to the Post Office, and to the cost of machinery for port launch, amounting to £786, being charged to the Miscellaneous Vote in 1899.

The total Revenue and Expenditure for the past five years was as follows:—

—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	53,080	51,893	56,019	59,954	61,418
Expenditure ...	50,620	48,094	48,878	59,520	61,812

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The statement of Assets and Liabilities shows a balance, on the 31st December, 1900, of Assets over Liabilities of £18,586, or £11,620 less than the balance shown in 1899. This is accounted for by the fact that in the Assets of 1899 there appeared as an advance the expenditure in respect to the electric light installation, while in the Liabilities was included that portion of the loan of £20,000 from the Savings Bank Funds already advanced for the installation.

The total amount of the loan having now been raised, the item disappears from the Liabilities, and the installation being completed, the total expenditure thereon is charged to Public Works Extraordinary. The actual decrease in the balance of Assets over Liabilities is £1,476.

Assets and Liabilities.

The Assets and Liabilities on the 31st December, 1900, were as follows :—

Assets.		Liabilities.	
	£		£
Rents outstanding	2,663	Establishments outstanding ... ..	...
Invested Funds	10,668	Pensions outstanding ... ..	...
Accrued Interest on Invested Funds	154	Deposits outstanding ... ..	...
Savings Bank Profits for 1900, say	2,600	Electric Light Works outstanding ... ..	...
Advances	2,341	Interest due on Commercial Mole Works ... ..	...
Hospital and Asylum Fees outstanding	106	Postage due to Foreign Countries ... ..	...
Electric Light Fees outstanding	1,075	Telegraph Rates due to Foreign Countries ... ..	...
Due for Special Police Naval Works	71	Overdraft on Anglo-Egyptian Bank ... ..	...
„ from Egyptian Post Office	15		3,178
„ for Telegrams sent	1		
Interest on Loan to Sanitary Commissioners	139		
Percentage on Convent Furniture	24		
Cash Balances	1,907	Balance of Assets over Liabilities	18,586
Total	21,764	Total	21,764

PUBLIC DEBT.

GIBRALTAR,
1900.

A further sum of £1,903 was advanced to General Revenue during 1900 to complete the second instalment of the loan of £20,000, at 2½ per cent., advanced from Savings Bank Funds for the purpose of completing the electric light installation.

At the close of the year the total debt stood at £19,253.

PUBLIC BOARDS.

The Revenue and Expenditure (including loans) of the Board of Sanitary Commissioners for the last five years is as follows:—

—	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Revenue ...	£ 56,380	£ 34,964	£ 67,860	£ 57,710	£ 71,714
Expenditure ...	55,368	34,746	68,702	55,702	65,098

The Debt of the Sanitary Commissioners for the past five years is given in the following table:—

1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
£ 70,328	£ 62,222	£ 81,000	£ 126,883	£ 143,330

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS.

Wines, Spirits, and Malt Liquors.

The importation of Wines during 1900 shows an apparent increase of 82,523 gallons as compared with the previous year, but this is abnormal, and due to a cargo of wine, representing

GIBRALTAR, 103,242 gallons, landed from a wrecked vessel, and afterwards
1900. re-shipped, the actual ordinary importation having fallen short
— by 20,719 gallons of that of 1899.

The importation of Spirits shows an increase of 7,683 gallons,
and that of Malt Liquors an increase of 1,785 gallons.

Tobacco.

The import of Tobacco shows 65 tons less than in 1899,
chiefly due to the large quantity imported during the years
1897-98.

EXPORTS.

The export of Wines during 1900 (after deducting the wrecked
cargo before referred to) shows an actual increase of 12,759
gallons over that of 1899, and the export of Spirits exceeded that
of 1899 by 5,789 gallons.

The Tobacco exported under permit in 1899 and 1900 is shown
as under :—

1899	...	...	...	...	714 tons.
1900	...	...	...	...	702 tons.

The only returns of Imports and Exports are those of dutiable
articles, a return of which for the past two years is given
below :—

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Wine Galls.	229,895	312,418	22,218	138,219
Spirits... .. „	72,095	79,778	33,994	39,784
Malt Liquor „	718,664	720,449	—	—
Tobacco lbs.	2,381,549	2,235,123	1,599,439	1,573,473

SHIPPING.
Comparative table of shipping entered and cleared in the last two years :—
Steam Vessels.

Nationality.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	1899.		1900.	1899.		1900.
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Great Britain ...	2,332	3,230,265	2,189	3,003,621	2,315	3,214,965
Germany ...	194	304,709	245	384,599	193	302,304
Spain ...	300	177,406	377	288,804	295	176,831
Norway and Sweden	199	114,698	245	181,219	199	114,698
France ...	132	107,710	150	117,314	133	108,885
Denmark ...	76	71,617	78	63,391	76	71,617
Holland ...	78	60,260	98	76,507	78	60,260
Italy ...	45	60,783	79	111,876	44	60,058
Austria ...	42	54,501	40	57,324	41	52,869
Greece ...	33	41,202	38	53,060	33	41,202
Russia ...	34	29,427	47	36,657	34	29,427
Belgium ...	20	25,502	23	29,194	20	25,502
Other Countries ...	5	4,883	4	4,631	5	4,883
Total Steam Vessels ...	3,490	4,282,963	3,613	4,408,197	3,466	4,263,501
					3,597	4,371,833

GIBRALTAR,
1900.

GIBRALTAR,
1900.

Sailing Vessels.

Nationality.	Entered.			Cleared.				
	1899.		1900.	1899.		1900.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.		
Great Britain ...	107	11,227	132	13,944	98	9,833	124	14,063
Spain ...	226	9,186	308	12,064	194	7,735	247	11,344
Italy ...	16	6,600	6	3,461	15	5,779	6	3,439
Portugal ...	63	3,974	66	3,446	28	2,460	36	2,563
Norway and Sweden ...	24	5,619	24	5,494	24	5,619	22	4,410
Denmark ...	8	828	9	1,501	8	828	9	1,367
Russia ...	2	882	7	2,895	2	882	5	2,380
Germany ...	4	4,264	2	834	3	730	1	688
Austria...	3	624	2	1,116	2	379	2	1,116
Holland ...	2	277	1	134	2	277	1	134
France ...	6	500	8	845	5	257	4	165
Other Countries ...	4	1,915	3	1,152	3	1,938	3	1,152
Total Sailing Vessels ...	465	45,896	568	46,886	384	36,177	460	42,821
Grand Total ...	3,955	4,328,859	4,181	4,455,083	3,850	4,299,678	4,057	4,414,654

Comparative statement of total shipping entered and cleared in the last five years :—

Nationality.	1896.		1897.		1898.		1899.		1900.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	5,772	6,718,821	5,556	6,654,993	5,729	7,142,661	4,852	6,466,290	4,690	6,014,380
Foreign	2,754	1,942,110	2,992	2,065,176	2,654	1,971,729	2,953	2,162,247	3,608	2,855,377
Total	8,526	8,660,931	8,478	8,720,169	8,383	9,114,390	7,805	8,628,537	8,298	8,869,757

III.—LEGISLATION.

The principal laws passed during the year were :—

1. An Ordinance to amend the Justices Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1900. This was passed in order to adapt to Gibraltar the provisions of the Imperial Summary Jurisdiction Act, 1899.

GIBRALTAR
1900.

GIBRALTAR,
1900.

2. An Ordinance to amend the Sanitary Order in Council, 1883, with regard to the importation of food. This measure was passed in order to remedy the unsatisfactory state of the law as regards the sale in Gibraltar of articles unfit for human food.

3. An Ordinance to amend the Ordinance to make certain offences punishable on summary conviction, Gibraltar, 1885. This law was enacted with a view to remedy the nuisance caused by a practice which had come into vogue of using bells on harness of hackney carriages.

4. Order in Council extending the Aliens Order in Council, Gibraltar, 1885, to certain British subjects. This measure was deemed necessary to check in some degree the overcrowding of the city, and to enable the Governor to remove undesirable residents therefrom.

5. An Ordinance to provide for the making of enquiries as to shipwrecks or other casualties affecting ships, and as to charges of incompetency or misconduct on the part of masters, mates, or engineers of ships. This law was designed to bring the practice in Gibraltar in respect to shipping enquiries into conformity with the general practice laid down in the Imperial Merchant Shipping Act, 1894.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The following table gives the comparative results for the past two years:—

	Aided Schools.				Private Schools.	
	1899.		1900.		1899.	1900.
	No. on Books.	Average attendance.	No. on Books.	Average attendance.	—	—
Boys ...	1,086	934	1,027	890	220	237
Girls ...	722	608	956	721	377	322
Total ...	1,808	1,542	1,983	1,611	597	559

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

GI BRALTAR,
1900.

HOSPITALS.

In the Colonial Hospital, at the beginning of the year, 54 cases remained under treatment from the previous year, and 656 fresh cases were admitted during the year; the average number in hospital throughout the year was 63. 8,879 out-patients were treated at the hospital dispensary during 1900.

SAVINGS BANK.

The credits to depositors on the 31st December, 1900, amounted to £34,056 and pesetas 2,736,128, as against £20,262 and pesetas 3,369,470 in 1899. The number of depositors was 3,443, as compared with 3,504 in 1899. The amount deposited in 1900 was £24,601, and the amount of withdrawals was £11,434 and pesetas 699,584.

VI.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of summary convictions before the police magistrate in 1900 was 506, or 137 less than in 1899, besides a case under the Extradition Treaty with Spain committed for surrender. Of the above 45 were for offences against the person, 41 for offences against property, and 420 for minor offences.

Of persons discharged there were:—

Discharged.	1899.	1900.
With a caution	191	253
For want of prosecution	87	110
On the merits	46	53

Fourteen persons were committed by the Police Magistrate for trial in the Supreme Court. Verdicts for the Crown were obtained in six cases, and verdicts of not guilty were returned in five cases.

GIBRALTAR,
1900.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The following table gives the population at the last Census in 1891, and the estimated population on the 31st December, 1900:—

Population.	Census 1891.	Estimated 1900.
Civil:—		
British subjects	16,759	17,318
Foreigners on permit	2,341	2,559
Total civil population	19,100	19,877
Military in Gibraltar	5,896	6,293
Total population	24,996	26,170

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Report of the Health Officer states that the general health of the population during the year has been good, in spite of the epidemics of small-pox and measles; and that the death-rate for the year is 23·81 for the total population, and 25·90 for the fixed civil population. The rate is somewhat higher than last year, though it must be borne in mind that zymotic diseases accounted for 54 deaths.

The general sanitary condition of Gibraltar may be considered as very satisfactory. Overcrowding is being gradually abated, though the specific density of the population still remains high.

The areas for collecting rain-water have been considerably increased in extent, and additional reservoirs, capable of containing 5,200,000 gallons have been constructed by the Sanitary Commissioners in the heart of the rock, in such a manner as to keep the water in them free from pollution, and to eliminate the possibility of its deteriorating through being kept therein from year to year.

CLIMATE.

The mean maximum temperature was 70·7 and the mean minimum 57·9. The absolute maximum was 97·0 on the

20th June, and the absolute minimum was 41·6 on the 30th January. The rainfall was 34·01 inches, which is slightly below the average for the past five years. GIBRALTAR,
1900.

GENERAL.

No works of any importance were carried out by the Colonial Government during the year.

The Commercial Mole Works undertaken by the Admiralty were in progress, and the sum of £1,018 was paid by the Colonial Government in connection therewith.

FRED. EVANS,

Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Gibraltar,

23rd October, 1901.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.
1901.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 359.

GIBRALTAR.

REPORT FOR 1901.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 342.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
HYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-29.] *Price 1½d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
339	British Honduras	1900
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar	"
343	Basutoland	1900-1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	"
346	Northern Nigeria	1900-1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900-1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900-1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900
354	Bermuda	1901
355	Gambia	"
356	Falkland Islands	"
357	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
358	Malta	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.

GIBBALTAR, 1901.

3

No. 359.

GIBBALTAR.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 342.)

GOVERNOR SIR G. S. WHITE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Gibraltar,

10th July, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book for 1901,
with a Report on the same by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

GEO. S. WHITE,

General and Governor.

REPORT ON THE GIBRALTAR BLUE BOOK FOR 1901.

I.—FINANCIAL.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The total revenue received during the year 1901 amounted to £71,106, showing an increase of £9,688 as compared with the revenue of the previous year. The estimated revenue was exceeded by £7,599.

The increase was principally obtained from the Customs receipts on malt liquors and tobacco.

The expenditure for the year 1901, which amounted to £63,112, against £61,812 in the previous year, fell short of the estimate by £357.

The subjoined table shows the revenue and expenditure as compared with the previous year:—

GIBRALTAR, 1901.

5

Revenue.		1900.	1901.	Expenditure.		1900.	1901.
		£	£			£	£
1. Customs	...	19,468	28,294	1. Establishments :—		33,829	34,513
	...			(a) Personal Emoluments	...	16,324	16,559
2. Port Dues and Wharfage	...	6,402	6,075	(b) Other Charges	...	2,119	1,869
3. Licenses and Internal Revenue	...	4,158	4,046	2. Pensions	...	1,000	1,000
4. Fees and Reimbursements in Aid	...	16,189	16,877	3. Ecclesiastical Grants	...	2,327	2,118
5. Post and Telegraph Offices	...	8,654	9,359	4. Public Works, Ordinary	...	3,259	3,486
6. Rents of Crown Property	...	5,835	5,670	5. " " Extraordinary	...	56	56
7. Interest on Investments	...	540	528	6. Crown Agents	...	899	952
8. Miscellaneous	...	140	220	7. Charges on Debt	...	1,971	2,491
9. Gain on Exchange	...	32	37	8. Miscellaneous	...	28	79
Total	...	61,418	71,106	9. Loss on Exchange	...		
	£			Total	...	61,812	63,112

REVENUE.

Customs.

The Customs receipts amounted to £28,294, against £19,468 in 1900, showing an increase of £8,826.

The receipts for duty on spirits show a small decrease of £2 16s., and those for wines a decrease of £222, as compared with the previous year. On the other hand, the receipts on malt liquor and tobacco show an increase of £194 and £8,855 respectively, as compared with the receipts under these heads for 1900.

The increase in the amount collected from tobacco is, to a great extent, due to the large importations of that article during the latter part of the year. These were probably due to a desire to anticipate a possible increase in the rate of duty, but there was also a general improvement in this trade during the year.

Port Dues.

The receipts of port dues on vessels entering during the year amounted to £4,359, against £4,668 in the previous year, showing a decrease of £309, due to a diminished number of arrivals.

Harbour and Wharf Dues.

The receipts for rates on hulks, lighters, and other boats, pier and jetty dues, amounted to £1,716, showing a decrease of £18 when compared with those of 1900, which amounted to £1,734.

The number of steamers and sailing vessels entering the port during the year is shown in the following table, and decreased by 328 and 38 respectively:—

	1900.		1901.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Sailing vessels	568	46,886	530	58,792	—	11,906	38	—
Steamers	3,613	4,408,197	3,285	4,112,558	—	—	328	305,639

There was during the year a decrease in the number of steamers actually coaling and in the quantity of coal taken, as shown in the following table:—

Year.					No. of Steamers.	Tons of Coal taken.
1900...	...	...	...	...	2,378	302,655
1901...	...	...	...	...	1,855	217,927
Decrease					523	84,728

Licenses.

The total revenue derived from licenses amounted to £4,046, showing a decrease of £112 when compared with the receipts for 1900, which amounted to £4,158.

Fees of Court, &c.

The total receipts under the above head amounted to £16,877, or an increase of £686 over those for the previous year. The storage of goods in the Government stores accounted for £329 of this increase.

Post Office and Telegraph.

This head of revenue shows an increase of £705, the total receipts being £9,359.

Crown Property.

The revenue derived from rents amounted to £5,670, or £165 less than in the previous year. The decrease is to some extent due to outstanding arrears. These arrears are being called in.

Interest.

The receipts on account of interest amounted to £528, or a decrease of £12 as compared with 1900.

EXPENDITURE.

Establishments.

The total expenditure for the public departments for 1901 amounted to £51,072, showing an increase of £919 over the previous year.

The Treasury Department shows an increase of £230, chiefly due to an addition to the out-door staff.

The cost of the Census taken in 1901 added £236 to the expenditure of the Registry of Births and Deaths Department.

The Electric Light Department shows an increase under "Personal Emoluments" of £374, and also under "Other Charges" of £407. The expenditure in this Department on fuel and water for the year shows an excess of £854 on this item for the previous year.

The expenditure of the Government Engineer's Department for 1901 was increased by £307, consequent on the appointment of a Government Engineer, at a salary of £500 per annum, at the end of 1900.

The Colonial Hospital expenditure shows a saving of £582 over that of the previous year, and the Police Department expenditure was £200 less than in 1900.

Pensions.

The death of several pensioners reduced the expenditure under this head by £260 for 1901.

Public Works.

The expenditure under the head of "Annually Recurrent" Works amounted to £2,118, or £209 less than in the previous year; and under the head of "Extraordinary" Works an increase is shown of £227, as compared with 1900. The items under this head include £855 for renewals of Convent furniture; £75 for repairs to Colonial Secretary's house; £91 for rebuilding disinfecting shed at Small-pox Hospital. There was a capital expenditure of £4,788 in connection with the electric light works.

Miscellaneous.

The miscellaneous expenditure amounted to £2,491, against £1,971 in the year 1900, being an increase of £520.

£611 was expended, from public funds, on account of the reception of Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, in the month of March, 1901.

The following statement gives the total revenue and expenditure for the past five years:—

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	51,893	56,019	59,954	61,418	71,106
Expenditure ...	48,094	48,878	59,520	61,812	63,112

Assets and Liabilities.

The Assets and Liabilities on the 31st December, 1901, were as follows :—

Assets.		Liabilities.	
	£		£
Rents outstanding	2,417	Establishments (other charges) outstanding	...
Invested Funds	10,675	Pensions outstanding	...
Accrued Interest on Invested Funds	152	Deposits outstanding	...
Savings Bank Profits for 1901, say	2,600	Electric Light outstanding	...
Advances	400	Interest due on Commercial Mole Works	...
Imprests outstanding	1,088	Telegraph Rates due to Foreign Countries	...
Hospital and Asylum Fees outstanding	178	Cabling of transit messages due to E. T. Coy	...
Electric Light Fees outstanding	1,378	Transit postage due to foreign countries	...
Due for Special Police, Naval Works	77	Public works, say	...
" from Egyptian Post Office	21	Draft and remittances	...
" by United Kingdom on Post Office Account	24		
Percentage on Convent Furniture	84	Balance of Assets over Liabilities	...
Cash Balances	4,846	Total	£
Total	£ 23,950		23,950

The balance of assets amounting to £20,522 is £1,936 more than that of 1900, which was given at £18,586. The assets were reduced during the year by a capital expenditure of £4,788 on the electric light works.

Public Debt.

The amount of the loan from the Savings Bank for the completion of the electric light installation was reduced during the year 1901 by two half-yearly payments of capital, amounting to £473, and stood at the close of the year at £18,780.

Public Boards.

The revenue and expenditure, including loans, of the Sanitary Commissioners for the last five years is as follows:—

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	34,964	67,860	57,710	71,714	53,165
Expenditure ...	34,746	68,702	55,702	65,098	51,333

The debt of the Sanitary Commissioners for the past five years is given in the following table:—

Sanitary Commissioners' Debt.

	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
	62,222	81,000	126,883	143,330	143,591

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS.

Wines, Spirits, and Malt Liquors.

The importation of wines during 1901 shows a decrease of 7,306 gallons when compared with the returns of the previous year. Spirits show a decrease of 660 gallons, and malt liquors show an increase of 86,010 gallons.

Tobacco.

The total imports of tobacco amounted to 1,965 tons, being 968 tons more than in 1900. This large importation has already been referred to under the head of Customs Receipts:—

Year.	Tons.
1901	1,965
1900	997
Increase	968

EXPORTS.

The export of wines during 1901 was 6,582 gallons less than in 1900, and that of spirits 337 gallons less than the previous year.

Tobacco.

The tobacco exported under permit during the year 1901 amounted to 1,065 tons, being 363 tons more than in the year 1900, when the export was unusually small.

The following return shows the imports and exports of dutiable articles for the past two years:—

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.
Wine Galls.	312,418*	201,870	138,219*	28,395
Spirits... .. "	79,778	79,118	39,784	39,447
Malt Liquors... .. "	720,449	806,459	—	—
Tobacco lbs.	2,235,123	4,403,033	1,573,473	2,387,609

* Includes 103,242 gallons, wrecked cargo.

SHIPPING.
Comparative table of shipping entered and cleared in the last two years :—
Steam Vessels.

Nationality.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	1900.			1901.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Vessels.	Tons.	Tons.
Great Britain ...	2,189	3,003,621	2,042	2,185	2,980,732	2,870,586
Germany ...	245	384,599	225	233	373,282	371,581
Spain ...	377	286,804	356	376	287,396	216,121
Norway and Sweden	245	181,219	164	247	180,996	126,199
France ...	150	117,314	159	150	117,314	127,744
Denmark ...	78	63,391	68	78	63,391	62,616
Holland ...	98	76,507	78	98	76,507	64,106
Italy ..	79	111,376	60	79	111,876	96,222
Austria	40	57,324	31	40	57,324	49,336
Greece ...	38	55,060	45	37	52,534	63,814
Russia ...	47	36,657	40	47	36,657	36,766
Belgium ...	23	29,194	14	23	29,194	14,077
Other Countries	4	4,631	3	4	4,631	5,288
Total Steam Vessels	3,613	4,408,197	3,285	3,597	4,371,833	4,103,454

Sailing Vessels.

Nationality.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	1900.		1901.	1900.		1901.
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Great Britain ...	132	13,944	112	13,481	124	14,063
Spain ...	308	12,064	254	11,427	247	11,344
Italy ...	6	3,461	19	9,846	6	3,439
Portugal ...	66	3,446	80	5,403	36	2,563
Norway and Sweden ...	24	5,494	26	7,725	22	4,410
Denmark ...	9	1,501	10	1,863	9	1,367
Russia ...	7	2,895	10	2,270	5	2,380
Germany ...	2	834	3	1,711	1	688
Austria...	2	1,116	2	1,275	2	1,116
Holland ...	1	134	4	686	1	134
France ...	8	845	8	1,659	4	165
Other Countries ...	3	1,152	2	1,506	3	1,152
Total Sailing Vessels ...	568	46,886	530	58,792	460	42,321
Grand Total ...	4,181	4,455,083	3,815	4,171,350	4,057	4,414,554

Comparative statement of total shipping entered and cleared in the past five years :—

Nationality.	1897.		1898.		1899.		1900.		1901.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British	5,556	6,654,993	5,729	7,142,661	4,852	6,466,290	4,630	6,014,360	4,297	5,766,184
Foreign	2,992	2,065,176	2,654	1,971,729	2,953	2,162,247	3,608	2,855,377	3,211	2,564,438
Total	8,478	8,720,169	8,383	9,114,390	7,805	8,628,537	8,238	8,869,737	7,508	8,330,622

III.—LEGISLATION.

Seven Ordinances were passed during the year:—

Four (Nos. 2, 3, 6, and 7) conferred exclusive privileges in respect of certain patented inventions.

Ordinance No. 1.—This makes the notification of infectious disease compulsory, and empowers the Chief of Police to call upon persons suffering from infectious disease to attend at, and remain in, hospital, except in certain cases.

Ordinance No. 4 repeals former Ordinances, and empowers the Governor to regulate, by notice in the "Official Gazette," sketching and photographing in Gibraltar.

Ordinance No. 5 enables the Governor to make rules for regulating the introduction of dead meat into Gibraltar.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The following table shows the comparative results for the past two years:—

	Aided Schools.				Private Schools.	
	1900.		1901.		1900.	1901.
	No. on Books.	Average attendance.	No. on Books.	Average attendance	—	—
Boys ...	1,027	890	1,069	922	237	277
Girls ...	956	721	934	719	322	295
Total ...	1,983	1,611	2,003	1,641	559	572

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS.

In the Colonial Hospital at the beginning of the year 48 cases remained under treatment from the previous year, and 591 fresh cases were admitted during the year. The average number in hospital daily throughout the year was 57.

Seven thousand two hundred and fifty-eight out-patients were treated at the hospital dispensary during 1901.

In the small-pox branch of the hospital there were nine cases under treatment from the previous year, and twelve fresh cases during 1901, the daily average being two.

A statement showing the expenditure of the hospital during each of the last five years is appended.

The statement includes the figures for the Small-pox Hospital, but is exclusive of the cost of maintenance and repair of the buildings.

Year.	Daily Average Number of Beds Occupied.	Gross Expenditure.	Cost per Bed.	Actual Cost per Bed after Deducting In-patients' fees.	Fees Paid by Out-patients.	Number of Out-patients Treated.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1897	60	3873 6 5	64 11 1	48 6 3	115 3 3	8473
1898	57	3966 15 1	69 11 10	53 0 2	83 19 7	7450
1899	61	4482 6 8	73 9 7	54 14 10	90 15 0	7746
1900	63	5105 14 3	81 0 10	62 7 1	85 0 9	8879
1901	59	4523 17 5	76 13 6	61 6 1	78 13 1	7258

SAVINGS BANK.

The credits to depositors on the 31st December, 1901, amounted to £45,500, and pesetas 2,333,077, as against £34,056 and pesetas 2,736,128 in 1900. The number of depositors was 3,578, as compared with 3,443 in 1900. The amount deposited in 1901 was £28,483, and the amount of withdrawals was £17,957 and pesetas 458,612.

The Profit and Loss Account for the past year showed a net profit of £2,369 to be transferred to General Revenue.

VI.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of summary convictions before the Police Magistrate in 1901 was 532, or 26 more than in 1900. In addition to these there were 169 persons discharged with a caution, or 84 less than in 1900. 118 persons were discharged for want of prosecution or for want of evidence, or eight more than in 1900, and 33 cases were dismissed on the merits, or 20 less than the previous year.

Of the 532 summary convictions, 44 were for offences against the person; 38 for offences against property; 1 for an offence against the Master; and 449 for other offences.

Three persons were committed for trial from the Magistrate's Court, viz., two for offences against the person and one for an offence against property, and two persons from the Consular Court at Tangier for coinage offences.

In all, five cases were tried at the Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court in 1901. Of these, one was standing over for trial from 1900, and one case committed in 1901 has not yet been heard.

Verdicts for the Crown were returned in the five cases.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The following was the population according to the Census taken on the 31st March, 1901:—

Civil	...	...	...	...	20,355
Military	...	...	...	...	6,475
Port and Harbour	...	...	...	...	630
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>27,460</u>

as compared with 25,755 in 1891.

This increase of 1,705 is partly attributable to the employment of a large number of persons from the United Kingdom in connection with the Naval Dockyard Extension Works and the Eastern Telegraph Company.

The birth-rate among the fixed civil population was 31·31 per 1,000, a slight increase on last year's rate, and above the average for the decennial period, 1891-1900, when it was 30·29 per 1,000.

The death-rates were 18·66 per 1,000 of total civil, and 21·35 per 1,000 of the fixed civil population.

The 380 deaths recorded were distributed as follows:—

General diseases	...	...	...	...	159
Local diseases	...	...	...	...	216
Injuries	...	...	...	...	5

Among the general diseases there were 24 deaths from diarrhoea and 42 from old age. There were 54 deaths from tubercular diseases. Among the local diseases there were 24 deaths from apoplexy and 56 from pneumonia, broncho-pneumonia, and phthisis. The rate of mortality in children under one year of age was diminished.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Health Officer reports that the general health of the population during the year was very satisfactory. There were no epidemics. The general sanitary condition of Gibraltar is

also satisfactory, and marked improvements have been made in houses which were formerly very insanitary. Constant supervision has been exercised over the food supplies sold in the town, and bakeries, public houses, eating houses, and aerated water factories have been regularly inspected and sanitary defects remedied.

The supply of water for flushing purposes is abundant, and maintained in a most satisfactory condition. The fresh water supply has been found capable of meeting a demand during the last year at least double that of any previous.

The roads and streets of the Colony are being improved by the conversion of the existing carriage way into the new form of pavement known as "Tar Macadam," which during the past year has fully realized the many advantages which were originally claimed for it.

CLIMATE.

The mean maximum temperature was 70·4 and the mean minimum 56·4. The absolute maximum was 92·6, on the 22nd July, and the absolute minimum was 39·2, on the 21st December. The rainfall was 50·83 inches, which is much greater than that recorded in any of the last five years, the average during that period being only 32·20 inches.

GENERAL.

On the 20th March, His Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall and York, accompanied by Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cornwall and York, arrived at Gibraltar, in the "Ophir," on his way to Australia to open the First Session of the Federal Parliament at Melbourne. Their Royal Highnesses met with a most enthusiastic reception.

On the 1st April Greenwich mean time was adopted in Gibraltar.

Good progress has been made during the year with the New Coaling and Commercial Mole, which is being constructed by contract under the supervision of the Navy Loan Works Department of the Admiralty.

FRED. EVANS,

Colonial Secretary.

Gibraltar,

8th July, 1902.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 344.

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1900.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 306.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1901.



LONDON :
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1901.

[Cd. 788-14.] *Price 2d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
321	Lagos	1900
322	Bermuda	"
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados	"
327	Bahamas	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodriguez	"
336	British New Guinea	1899-1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar	"
343	Basutoland	1900-1901

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 344.

GOLD
COAST, 1900.

GOLD COAST.

GOVERNOR MAJOR NATHAN TO MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Accra,

5th November, 1901

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward a Report by Mr. C. H Hunter, Acting Colonial Secretary, on the Blue Book of the Gold Coast for the year 1900.

2. I regret the delay which has occurred in the preparation of this document, due to the great amount of work that has been in the Secretariat this year, and to the staff of that office having been unavoidably below strength.

I have, &c.,

M. NATHAN,

Governor.

**GOLD
COAST, 1900**

**REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE GOLD
COAST FOR 1900.**

FINANCIAL.

1. The table below shows the Revenue for the year 1900 compared with that of the preceding year:—

HEAD.	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	280,192	282,652	2,460	—
Light dues	1,303	1,495	192	—
Licences and internal revenue not otherwise classified.	16,079	13,476	—	2,603
Fees of court or office, payments for specific services and reimbursements in aid.	21,009	19,618	—	1,391
Post Office	482	584	102	—
Rents of Government property ...	290	42	—	248
Interest	141	450	309	—
Miscellaneous	3,300	3,824	524	—
Ashanti	—	3,406	3,406	—
Northern Territories	—	7,736	7,736	—
Grant in aid of expenditure in the Northern Territories.	100,000	50,000	—	50,000
Total	422,796	383,283	14,729	54,242

2. The General Revenue for the year, exclusive of grants in aid, amounted to £333,283, being £24,397 less than the amount estimated, but £10,487 more than that collected in the preceding year. It was the highest Revenue ever raised in the Colony.

3. The increase was entirely due to the fact that Revenue was derived from Ashanti and the Northern Territories for the first time.

4. A Parliamentary Grant of £50,000 was made in aid of the Expenditure in the Northern Territories. GOLD
COAST, 1900.

5. The table below shows the Expenditure for the year 1900 compared with that of the preceding year:—

Head.	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease
	£	£	£	£
Pensions and Gratuities	5,610	6,293	683	—
Governor and Legislature	5,291	5,303	12	—
Colonial Secretary's Office	4,501	4,249	—	252
Ashanti... ..	2,608	2,578	—	30
Northern Territories	54,875	37,441	—	17,434
Native Affairs	2,036	1,382	—	654
Treasury	5,143	4,758	—	385
Customs	13,094	14,719	1,625	—
Preventive Services	8,906	14,438	5,532	—
Printing Office... ..	1,539	1,502	—	37
Audit	1,487	1,375	—	112
Lighthouses and Signal Stations	613	566	—	47
District Commissioners	8,831	8,896	65	—
Supreme Court	5,359	5,994	635	—
Law Officers	1,626	1,608	—	18
Ecclesiastical and Cemeteries	1,015	973	—	42
Constabulary	40,583	19,634	—	20,949
Police	13,784	12,514	—	1,270
Volunteers	708	516	—	192
Prisons	6,723	7,471	748	—
Medical and Sanitary	21,208	17,754	—	3,454
Education	6,523	7,038	515	—
Botanical Stations	1,154	1,650	496	—
Carried forward	213,217	178,652	10,311	44,876

GOLD
COAST, 1900.5. EXPENDITURE—*continued*.

Head.	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward	213,217	178,652	10,311	44,876
Transport	17,192	17,038	—	154
Rent	1,225	1,190	—	35
Miscellaneous Services	11,484	18,974	7,490	—
Post Office	4,940	11,916	416	—
Telegraphs	6,560			
Public Works Department	10,778	10,457	—	321
Public Works, Recurrent	13,146	14,162	1,016	—
Public Works, Extraordinary	27,183	19,814	—	7,369
Special Services	3,911	—	—	3,911
Ashanti Special Expedition	20	—	—	20
Totals	309,656	272,203	19,233	56,686

6. The foregoing statement shows a net decrease of £37,453 as compared with the Expenditure of the preceding year. This decrease was due to a general saving in nearly all the Departments, while £43,451 less than estimated was expended in the Northern Territories.

7. The table does not take into account a Grant-in-aid of £202,300 in respect of the Ashanti disturbances.

8. The table below shows a comparative statement of the Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1896	237,460	282,272
1897	233,179	401,692
1898	303,822	377,976
1899	422,796	309,656
1900	383,283	372,203

9. It will be observed that during the years 1896 to 1898 the Expenditure very considerably exceeded the Revenue. This was mainly due to the cost of the Ashanti expedition of 1895-96, which was defrayed from the funds of the Colony, and to the opening up and development of the Northern Territories. For the past two years the General Revenue has largely exceeded the Expenditure.

GOLD
COAST, 1900.

10. The Colony has no Public Debt, but is responsible for advances to the extent of £435,448. This includes advances made on account of the Secondee-Tarquah Railway.

11. An Ordinance was passed in 1900 providing for the raising of a loan of £676,000 for railway construction, &c., in addition to the £220,000 authorised in 1898 by the Railway Ordinance of that year. Neither loan has yet been subscribed, but the sum expended on railways up to the end of 1900 amounted to £389,869.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

12. The total value of Imports in 1900 was £1,294,963, and the value of Exports £885,445, giving a total value for the trade of the Colony for the year of £2,180,408, a decrease of £83,808 on the previous year.

13. The table below shows the value of the trade of the Colony for the last five years:—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	Total.
	Paying duty.	Admitted free.		
	£	£	£	£
1896 ...	552,968	225,041	792,111	1,570,120
1897 ...	562,418	221,770	857,793	1,641,981
1898 ...	599,508	360,828	992,998	1,953,334
1899 ...	735,917	416,561	1,111,738	2,264,216
1900 ...	849,022	445,941	885,446	2,180,409

GOLD 14. The table below gives a general classification of all
Coast, 1900. Imports:—

Articles.	Value in Sterling.	
	Of imports in detail, excluding expenses.	Total Value, excluding expenses.
I.—Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics.	£ —	£ 311,258
II.—Raw materials :—		
(a) Metal	1,209	
(b) Other	17,131	18,341
III.—Manufactured articles :—		
(a) Textile	370,752	
(b) Metal	93,255	
(c) Other	305,435	769,442
IV.—Coin and bullion... ..	—	195,922
Total	—	£1,294,963

15. The following is a comparative table of the value of Imports, showing that the greater portion of the Import trade is with the United Kingdom, and that while the Imports from the United Kingdom and British Colonies together increased 67 per cent. in the last five years, those from Foreign Countries increased 60 per cent. in the same period:—

Year.	From the United Kingdom.	From British Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£
1896 ...	569,828	28,520	179,661	768,009
1897 ...	526,411	60,787	196,990	784,188
1898 ...	726,197	43,101	191,038	960,336
1899 ...	858,721	54,079	239,678	1,152,478
1900 ...	920,279	78,042	296,642	1,294,963

16. The table below gives a general classification of all Exports:—

GOLD
COAST, 1900.

Articles.	Value in Sterling.		
	Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	British and Foreign and Colonial Produce and Manufacture.	Totals.
	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics	—	849	849
II. Raw materials:—			
(a) Metal	38,208	68	38,276
(b) Other	813,472	14	813,486
III. Manufactured articles:—			
(a) Textile	—	6,650	6,650
(b) Metal	—	413	413
(c) Other	737	3,913	4,650
IV. Coin and bullion... ..	—	21,121	21,121
Totals	842,417	33,028	885,445

17. The following is a comparative table of the value of Exports, showing that the greater portion of the Export trade is with the United Kingdom. Comparing it with the table in paragraph 15, it will be seen that the proportion of the total Exports going to Foreign Countries is far higher than that of the total Imports coming from them:—

Year.	To the United Kingdom.	To British Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£
1896	536,106	37,471	218,534	792,111
1897	581,904	35,667	240,222	857,793
1898	713,335	41,667	237,996	992,998
1899	767,575	70,762	273,401	1,111,738
1900	509,779	49,988	325,678	885,445

**GOLD
COAST, 1900.**

18. There was a decrease in the value of Exports for the year 1900 compared with that of 1899 amounting to £226,393, which is attributed to the Ashanti rebellion and consequent stagnation of trade, and also to the fact that rubber no longer goes to the Gold Coast ports from the neighbouring French Colony, as was formerly the case.

The following are the most important items of decrease:—

Rubber	...	...	...	£227,575
Lumber	...	...	...	19,329
Kola Nuts	...	...	...	13,888
Gold and gold dust	...	...	...	13,293

The increases are trifling, except in the following articles:—

Palm oil	...	...	...	£55,608
Cocoa	...	...	...	11,216

19. The following table shows the quantity and value of kola nuts and cocoa exported during the last five years:—

Year.	Kola Nuts.		Cocoa.	
	Packages.	Value.	Lbs.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1896	3,156	33,278 0 4	86,854	2,275 13 3
1897	4,278	37,869 16 4	156,672	3,195 14 7
1898	3,092	35,789 3 7	414,201	9,616 4 0
1899	2,671	57,020 16 11	714,929	16,063 19 5
1900	1,907	43,132 13 7	1,200,794	27,280 9 7

20. The following table gives quantities and values of palm oil and palm kernels exported in the last three years, and shows the trade in these to have been maintained:—

Year.	Palm Oil.		Palm Kernels.	
	Gallons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.
		£		£
1898	2,145,138	114,288	9,732	66,378
1899	3,323,919	183,204	12,664	106,156
1900	4,238,685	238,812	12,811	96,936

21. The following table gives quantities and values of timber exported in the last five years, and shows a decline in this trade since 1897:—

**GOLD
COAST, 1900.**

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Feet.	£
1896	6,036,381	52,234
1897	15,236,218	90,569
1898	13,620,965	110,331
1899	11,990,832	87,076
1900	7,443,987	67,747

22. The comparative table below shows the quantities and values of rubber exported from the Colony to the countries mentioned during the last three years, and shows a large falling off in 1900, partly due to the disturbances in Ashanti:—

Countries.	Quantity.			Value.		
	1898.	1899.	1900.	1898.	1899.	1900.
United Kingdom.	Lbs. 5,380,755	Lbs. 5,249,541	Lbs. 3,063,657	£ 495,502	£ 522,854	£ 292,257
Germany ...	600,000	322,414	322,009	55,910	32,836	32,445
Other Countries.	3,429	599	56,774	255	41	3,454
Totals...	5,984,984	5,572,554	3,452,440	551,667	555,731	328,156

23. The following table gives quantities and values of gold exported in the last five years, and shows a steady decline,

**GOLD
COAST, 1900.**

due, it is believed, to new systems of development being introduced and old mines being closed down:—

Years.	Gold and Gold Dust.			
	Ozs.	Ack.*	Tek.*	Value.
1896	23,940	10	2½	£ 86,186 7 2
1897	23,554	13	3½	84,797 9 1
1898	17,732	11	—	63,837 13 6
1899	14,249	14	2½	51,299 13 0
1900	10,557	6	1½	38,006 12 3

* Colonial Office Note. In weighing gold dust the natives of the Gold Coast employ only two denominations, viz., the Teku and the Ackie. The Teku is ¼th of an Ackie, and is equal to 9d. in value. The Ackie is ⅛th part of an ounce (Troy), and is equivalent to 4s. 6d. in value. The ounce (Troy) of gold dust is fixed by Ordinance No. 2 of 1880 at £3 12s. 0d. in value.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS.

24. The following were the Customs receipts during the year at the principal ports of the Colony:—

Port.	Imports, exclusive of Spirits, Gun- powder and Guns.	Spirits.	Gun- powder.	Guns.	Totals.
Accra ...	£ 16,665	£ 39,423	£ 709	£ 109	£ 56,906
Adda ...	6,125	15,572	103	42	21,842
Axim ...	7,400	17,538	544	122	25,664
Cape Coast ...	23,217	40,513	721	417	64,868
Kwitta ...	4,048	8,741	806	50	13,645
Saltpond ...	7,290	24,716	231	76	32,353
Sekondi ...	2,821	11,789	47	22	14,679
Winneba ...	3,308	20,884	312	11	24,515
Other stations	3,876	22,796	169	31	26,872
Totals ...	74,810	202,012	3,642	880	281,344

The Customs receipts show a net increase of £2,460 over those of the preceding year.

GOLD
COAST, 1900.

25. The principal increase in Customs receipts is that on spirits, which, compared with the receipts of last year, show an increase of £15,269. This is entirely due to the large importation of American rum to the detriment of the trade in gin; the duties on rum showing an increase of £18,065, whilst the gin duties show a decrease of £2,920. The most marked decreases are those under the following heads:—

General Imports	...	...	...	£3,270
Gunpowder	...	...	...	8,305
Guns	...	...	...	1,408

The decreases in receipts from General Imports can only be attributed to the Ashanti disturbances, and from Gunpowder and Guns to the Proclamation of April 12th, 1900, prohibiting dealing in these articles.

SHIPPING.

26. The following table is a comparative statement of the total shipping entered and cleared for the last five years:—

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
1896	16	6,784	400	553,794
1897	16	6,582	415	580,277
1898	9	3,173	390	572,811
1899	11	4,825	402	631,124
1900	12	4,858	433	708,742

27. The increase in tonnage of steamers entered and cleared over those of 1899 amounts to 77,618 tons. This is due to larger steamers being placed on the West African service.

28. There is a regular fortnightly English mail service between the ports of Axim, Sekondi, Cape Coast, and Accra, and the United Kingdom, performing the voyage in 16 to 18 days, and a regular monthly German mail service from Accra and Cape Coast to Plymouth. These latter boats now call at Southampton on their outward passage.

**GOLD
COAST, 1900.**

LEGISLATION.

29. During the year 1900 21 Ordinances were passed. Of these Nos. 1, 2, 6, 7, 12, and 14 are of importance.

30. "The Patents Ordinance" (No. 1 of 1900) provides for the protection of inventions by Letters Patent.

31. "The Trade Marks Ordinance" (No. 2 of 1900) provides for the registration of trade marks, giving to the proprietors of registered trade marks the right of exclusive use of such trade marks.

32. "The Shipping Casualties, Wrecks, and Salvage Ordinance" (No. 6 of 1900) gives authority for inquiry to be made respecting shipping casualties, and in the case of salvage directs that Receivers and Assessors shall be appointed by the Governor.

33. "The Imperial Loans Ordinance" (No. 7 of 1900) makes provision for the borrowing of the sum of £676,000 for certain public works from the Imperial Treasury and for the due repayment of the same.

34. "The Kwitta Customs Tariff (Amendment) Ordinance" (No. 12 of 1900) provides a new customs tariff for goods imported at Kwitta, and repeals Ordinance No. 8 of 1900.

35. "The Concessions Ordinance" (No. 14 of 1900) was passed to regulate the concession of rights with respect to lands by natives, and provides for enquiries into concessions, issue of certificates of validity, issue of licences to prospect, payment of duties on profits, and for other matters affecting the mining interests in the Colony.

EDUCATION.

PRIMARY.

36. The schools in the Colony are divided into two classes—Government and Assisted. The former, seven in number, have been established and are exclusively maintained by Government funds. The latter, of which there are 131, are schools established by the different Mission Societies and receiving annual Grants-in-aid from the State towards their support. There are, in addition, a number of schools connected with the Missions which not being sufficiently large (*i.e.*, not having an average daily attendance of 20) do not receive any support from the Government. The principal Missions at present represented in the Colony are the Wesleyan Methodist, the Basel (German Protestant), and the Roman Catholic (French).

GOLD
COAST, 1900

37. There is no system of local management as that term is generally understood; indeed, in the majority of villages where schools have been established the only person in any way capable of taking a share in the management of the schools is the master himself. The sphere of each Mission is divided into districts, and an ordained member, either European or native, of the Society represented is appointed to overlook all the schools in his particular district. These managers appoint and dismiss teachers, fix salaries, &c., without any reference to the central authority. That this system is far from satisfactory is at once evident from the fact that a journey of two to three weeks is in some cases necessary to enable a manager to make one short visit to each of the schools for which he is responsible; but, unsatisfactory as the arrangement is, it is under present circumstances, and will be for some considerable time, the only one possible.

38. The total number of children returned as attending school in 1900 was 11,996, about 14 per cent. of whom were girls. The average daily attendance was 8,911, and the number actually presented for examination was 10,329. There are in addition about 2,000 children in attendance at the smaller or unassisted schools. The number of children attending school is thus barely one per cent. of the estimated population of the Colony.

In 1886 the number of children on the rolls was 3,513, and the average daily attendance 2,629.

39. The following table gives the returns for the past ten years:—

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS.

Year.	Govern- ment.	Assisted.	Total.	No. on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Grant-in-aid.
1890-1	5	49	54	5,076	3,541	£ 1,761 s. 5 d. 0
1891-2	5	69	74	6,666	—	1,678 4 0
1892-3	6	65	72	7,350	5,195	2,170 17 6
1893-4	5	70	75	8,174	6,684	2,394 14 0
1894-5	7	93	100	9,954	7,570	3,179 6 0
1895-6	6	109	115	11,205	8,558	3,400 11 0
1897	7	111	118	—	8,478	3,646 13 8
1898	7	112	119	11,181	8,369	3,432 13 1
1899	7	123	130	12,240	9,239	4,129 11 5
1900	7	131	138	11,996	8,911	3,679 11 1

GOLD
COAST, 1900.

40. In the two principal Government schools at Accra and Cape Coast a fee of sixpence per month is charged for scholars in the standards, and children in the infant classes are charged threepence per month. In the majority of "Assisted" schools instruction is free, but in a few cases a fee, varying from one shilling to ten shillings per quarter is paid.

The following table shows the amount of fees paid during 1899 and 1900:—

Year.				Government Schools.	Assisted Schools.	Total.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1899	...	...	...	207 14 0	627 9 5	835 3 5
1900	...	...	...	210 12 3	536 10 8	747 2 11

The average annual payment of each child attending school during 1900 was thus one shilling and twopence.

41. In 1900 the Government expenditure on education was approximately £7,000. Of this amount £3,679 11s. 1d. was awarded as Grants-in-aid to the Mission Societies, the remainder representing the cost of maintaining the purely Government schools and the executive branch of the Department. The cost to the Missions of maintaining the aided schools was, as returned by them, about 75 per cent. of the amount expended by the Government.

Voluntary subscriptions, amounting to a little over £200, were received by the various missionary bodies.

SECONDARY.

42. Of higher or secondary education there is none. The training seminaries of the Basel Mission at Akropong and Abetifi may be said to be the only attempts at an education other than merely elementary. The standard from which the candidates for training are taken is not at present sufficiently high to enable the work done at these institutions to be of a very advanced order.

TECHNICAL.

43. In 1899 a school for instruction in carpentry was opened by a qualified European master in connection with the Government School, Accra. Attendance at these classes is not confined to scholars from the Government school, children from the higher standards in the local mission school having the privilege of entry. A School on similar lines is shortly to be opened at Cape Coast, where, in connection with the Wesleyan Mission,

classes for instruction in smith-work have for some time been held.

GOLD
COAST, 1900.

Most of the schools in the interior have small plantations attached where the scholars receive useful instruction in the cultivation of cocoa, coffee, sisal hemp, cassada, &c.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

44. There are Government hospitals at the following places in the Colony:—Accra, Cape Coast, Elmina, Axim, Saltpond, Kwitta, and Kumasi. Of these, there is accommodation for Europeans at the two first named stations. A nursing sister has now been appointed to the hospital at Cape Coast.

45. The number of in-patients treated during the year at the various hospitals was 1,185 compared with 628 in 1899.

ASYLUM.

46. There is only one lunatic asylum in the Colony, and that is at the Castle at Christiansborg, the residence of former Governors of this Colony.

47. There are no poor-houses nor reformatories in the Colony, and poverty, in the strict sense of the word, is practically unknown.

SAVINGS BANK.

48. The deposits for the year amounted to £3,553, and the withdrawals to £4,067, making an excess of withdrawals over deposits of £514. The number of depositors fell to nearly half that of the previous year. The reason that the transactions have decreased is stated to be mainly due to the establishment of branches of the Bank of British West Africa at Accra and Cape Coast. These branches, by giving 5 per cent. instead of 2½ per cent. interest, have taken away from the Savings Bank the larger and more permanent of the deposits. The small depositors, mainly subordinate officials and traders' clerks, still continue to make use of the Savings Bank chiefly as a means for safely keeping their money. They deposit their monthly pay as soon as received and draw it out again in instalments as they require it for use. The vast bulk of the natives who have money make no use of any Bank, preferring to obtain usurious rates of interest for its loan, though this is, of course, attended by risk. The Savings Bank on the Gold Coast with its 271 depositors cannot on the whole be looked upon as a thriving institution, though I am informed that it is appreciated by the small number of people that make use of it.

**GOLD
Coast, 1900**

49. Comparative table showing deposits for 1899 and 1900:—

Station.	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Accra	988 14 3	985 17 1	—	2 17 2
Adda	158 9 8	160 15 0	2 5 4	—
Axim	710 5 2	313 1 1	—	397 4 1
Cape Coast ...	1,010 19 4	904 10 9	—	106 8 7
Elmina	61 3 9	77 5 2	16 1 5	—
Kwitta	242 12 6	562 12 0	319 19 6	—
Saltpond	82 6 10	152 3 2	69 16 4	—
Sekondi	118 3 8	0 6 6	—	117 17 2
Tarkwa	223 7 7	42 13 0	—	180 14 7
Winneba	339 17 8	354 1 6	14 3 10	—
Total	3,936 0 5	3,553 5 3	422 6 5	805 1 7

50. Comparative table showing withdrawals for 1899 and 1900:—

Station.	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Accra	1,558 4 6	1,268 6 8	—	289 17 10
Adda	0 7 0	213 12 3	213 5 3	—
Axim	521 15 4	487 8 3	—	34 7 1
Cape Coast ...	1,206 18 9	1,327 13 7	120 14 10	—
Elmina	55 19 3	63 0 1	7 0 10	—
Kwitta	55 16 0	74 2 4	18 6 4	—
Saltpond	51 7 1	206 14 5	155 7 4	—
Sekondi	103 0 0	4 4 0	—	98 16 0
Tarkwa	—	44 8 9	44 8 9	—
Winneba	420 3 4	377 1 6	—	43 1 10
Total	3,973 11 3	4,066 11 10	559 3 4	466 2 9

51. The table below shows the synopsis of deposits, from ^{GOLD} ~~COAST, 1900~~ which it will be seen that the number of depositors is considerably less than it was in 1899:—

Synopsis of Deposits.

Year.	No. of Accounts under £5.	Between £5 and £10.	Between £10 and £20.	Between £20 and £50.	Between £50 and £100.	Between £100 and £200.	Over £200.	Total.
1898 ...	360	26	34	27	8	8	6	469
1899 ...	335	33	31	31	16	8	4	458
1900 ...	172	26	24	29	8	8	4	271

52. Below is a comparative statement showing the transactions of the Savings Bank since it was established in 1888:—

52. Comparative statement for 13 years of depositors and amounts at their credit at the end of each year 1888 to 1900:—

Year.	Balance.	Deposits.	Interest Due on Deposits.	Total.	Amounts Withdrawn.	Interest Paid on Withdrawals.	Total.	Balance.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1888 ...	—	993 19 0	7 4 4	1,001 3 4	51 13 0	—	51 13 0	949 10 4
1889 ...	949 10 4	2,663 10 0	40 14 2	3,653 14 6	439 9 0	1 2 7	440 11 7	3,213 2 11
1890 ...	3,213 2 11	1,665 6 8	45 19 11	4,924 9 6	2,705 6 6	3 13 3	2,708 19 9	2,215 9 9
1891 ...	2,215 9 9	3,212 11 2	64 1 7	5,492 2 6	2,331 7 8	9 2 3	2,340 9 11	3,151 12 7
1892 ...	3,151 12 7	3,144 2 8	88 3 0	6,383 18 3	2,865 4 2	9 6 0	2,874 10 2	3,509 8 1
1893 ...	3,509 8 1	3,112 5 6	83 10 9	6,705 4 4	2,776 11 0	4 5 10	2,780 16 10	3,924 7 6
1894 ...	3,924 7 6	5,999 19 7	104 6 11	10,028 14 0	4,860 5 4	6 6 10	4,866 12 2	5,162 1 10
1895 ...	5,162 1 10	4,564 11 9	110 13 1	9,837 6 8	4,251 18 11	6 14 9	4,258 13 8	5,578 13 0
1896 ...	5,578 13 0	7,249 13 9	127 7 0	12,955 13 9	7,277 3 0	9 13 3	7,286 16 3	5,668 17 6
1897 ...	5,668 17 6	3,674 1 1	106 8 9	9,449 7 4	5,613 4 10	23 19 1	5,637 3 11	3,812 3 5
1898 ...	3,812 3 5	4,812 5 4	105 18 10	8,730 7 7	3,716 11 1	5 19 9	3,722 11 10	5,007 15 9
1899 ...	5,007 15 9	3,827 0 7	108 9 10	8,943 6 2	3,964 15 5	8 15 10	3,973 11 3	4,969 14 11
1900 ...	4,969 14 11	3,447 3 3	106 2 0	8,523 0 2	4,048 2 3	18 9 7	4,066 11 10	4,456 8 4

POLICE.

53. The strength of the Police Force on the 31st December, 1900, was 410 of all ranks; 149 recruits were enlisted at Accra, but of these 10 were afterwards rejected as unsuitable. Police duties among their people are very distasteful to the natives of the Gold Coast, and for that reason it is with great difficulty recruits can be induced to enlist in the Police Force.

PRISONS.

54. There are 15 prisons in the Colony, including Coomassie and Attabubu.

55. Carpentering, tailoring, boot-making, and other trades are carried on at the Accra and Elmina prisons. The prisoners at other stations are employed as labourers and scavengers.

56. During the year there were 13 escapes as compared with 22 in 1899. Of these, 3 were recaptured. Corporal punishment was administered to 3 prisoners, as compared with 18 and 10 in 1899 and 1898 respectively. The number of executions was 7.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The following are the statistics of crime for the last five years :—

	Apprehensions.					Convictions.				
	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
I. Offences against the person ...	1,187	986	1,089	891	967	667	601	593	496	475
II. Offences against property ...	730	744	846	788	831	411	416	492	416	441
III. Other offences ...	5,263	4,073	4,165	2,362	1,563	4,274	3,469	3,136	1,481	1,186
Totals ...	7,180	5,803	6,100	4,041	3,361	5,352	4,486	4,221	2,393	2,102

From this table it will be seen that both the number of apprehensions and convictions have considerably decreased during the past five years.

VITAL STATISTICS.

58. The general health of the Colony during the year 1900 was good. Both the official and non-official European population increased very largely since 1899. The number of officials has increased from 166 to 468 and that of non-officials from 400 to 1,512. The very large increase in the latter is due to the great number of miners and others who are continually coming out in connection with the mining industry. Both the death and invalid rates per 1,000 are less than the corresponding rates for the preceding year.

59. The following table shows the death and invaliding rate per 1,000 among the Europeans:—

**GOLD
COAST, 1900.**

Class.	No.	Deaths.	Invalided.	Death rate per 1,000.	Invaliding rate per 1,000.
Official ...	468	10	29	21·36	61·96
Non-official ...	1,512	34	99	22·48	65·47
Total ...	1,980	44	128	22·22	64·64

60. No death-rate can be calculated for the natives owing to the impossibility of obtaining reliable information. It is, however, satisfactory to note that advantage is being taken of the hospitals provided, the number of in-patients treated during the year being nearly double of that for 1899.

61. The Pathological Laboratory which was established at Accra in the preceding year made little or no progress in 1900, owing to the absence at Coomassie of the Medical Officer in charge of it.

62. Each year shows some improvement in the sanitary condition of Accra, as well as most of the coast towns, but the habits of the people are dirty, and much of the sickness in the Colony, especially at Cape Coast, is attributable to this.

63. The following table shows the monthly rainfall at Accra and Aburi for the years 1899 and 1900:—

Month.	Accra.		Aburi.	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
January ...	—	·62	·50	1·51
February ...	·62	·8	4·74	2·30
March ...	1·99	1·27	6·18	2·72
April ...	·64	4·89	3·08	4·88
May ...	4·16	3·98	3·98	3·14
June ...	4·03	3·55	5·94	5·72
July ...	·11	·90	5·35	2·48
August ...	4·12	·30	5·45	1·49
September...	·56	·20	1·15	2·29
October ...	2·47	5·35	6·16	5·90
November...	—	2·20	5·54	2·53
December...	·94	—	1·05	2·69
Totals...	19·64	23·34	49·12	37·65

From this table it will be seen that the rainfall at Aburi is considerably less, and at Accra rather more, than in the previous year.

GOLD
COAST, 1900.

POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

64. From the 1st of October, 1899, the two branches of the office were put under the administration of the Postmaster-General.

Post.

65. The table below shows some part of the business of the Postal Department during 1900 as compared with the previous year:—

Year.	No. of Registered Articles Posted.	Total amount of Money Order Transactions.	Total amount of Postal Order Transactions.	No. of Parcels.
1899	41,878	£ s. d. 16,878 4 6	£ s. d. 2,387 4 6	5,744
1900	48,760	21,821 17 9	2,324 9 6	7,995
Increase	6,882	4,942 19 8	—	2,251
Decrease	—	—	62 15 0	—

The money orders show a large increase on those of the previous year.

TELEGRAPHS.

66. The increase in telegrams sent in 1899 was steadily maintained during the year, the total number of telegrams transmitted during the year being 140,315, as compared with 128,026 in the previous year; and the Revenue collected being about £400 in excess of that of 1899. Temporary offices were opened at a number of places during the Ashanti disturbances. The telegraph line for the greater part of the distance between Prahsu and Coomassie, and for many miles north of Coomassie, was destroyed by the Ashantis, but the greater part of it was restored before the end of the year.

67. The number of messages sent through the Government Offices for transmission by the African Direct Telegraph Company, amounted to 2,563, as compared with 2,268 in 1899.

TELEPHONES.

68. There is a telephone exchange at Accra connected with all the Government Offices. It was intended to establish an exchange at Cape Coast during the year but the disturbances in Ashanti prevented it being completed. Communication was established between Cape Coast Castle, the Base Commandant's Office, and the Hospital.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

GOLD
COAST, 1900.

69. There are no Imperial or militia forces in the Colony.

70. The establishment of the Gold Coast Constabulary in 1900 was 1,521 of all ranks. The strength of the force on 31st December was much below this establishment, owing to a large number having been killed during the disturbances in Ashanti and the cessation of all recruiting for the force for the time being. The total expenditure during the year in connection with the force amounted to £19,634. A complete reorganization of the force is proposed.

71. The Gold Coast Rifle Volunteers, which was raised in 1892, have gradually increased, the nominal strength of the force on the 31st December, 1900, being 283, or 42 in excess of the strength at the end of the previous year:—

Officers.	Warrant Officers.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Privates.	Signallers.	Band.	Total
9	1	19	31	198	—	25	283

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

72. At the commencement of April the Coomassie chiefs and their followers in Ashanti, together with the Offinsus, Atchimas, and Egisus, rose against the Government, and were afterwards joined by part of the Kokofus, the Adansis, Ahafus, Wankis, Bechims, and Inkwantas. The Governor was besieged at Coomassie till the 23rd June, when he made his way to the coast, leaving a small garrison in the Residency. A force of West and Central African troops under Colonel Sir James Willcocks relieved the Residency on the 15th July, and inflicted several defeats on the Ashantis, the operations lasting till the end of the year.

73. Trade with the interior, except with the eastern part of the Colony, ceased during the rising and military operations.

74. Towards the end of the year, a large number of Europeans arrived on the Gold Coast with a view to the prospecting and development of mining properties.

75. The difficulties of transport which have always been an obstacle to the general progress of the Colony were greatly

**GOLD
COAST, 1900.**

increased by the necessity of providing for the movement of a large number of troops with their stores and ammunition to and from Ashanti.

76. Scarcity of labour again showed itself to be a very serious impediment to the opening up of the Colony generally; the price of labour is high and the supply most uncertain.

77. Railhead on the Seccondee-Tarquah Railway was at 25½ miles from Seccondee, or 14 miles short of Tarquah, at the end of the year, the formation level being complete for four miles beyond. The scarcity of labour had very seriously retarded the progress of the work.

78. The investigations for a water supply for Accra progressed, but no definite scheme has yet been determined on.

79. His Excellency, Major Nathan, C.M.G., R.E., was appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony in succession to Sir F. M. Hodgson, K.C.M.G., and arrived at Accra on the 17th December.

C. H. HUNTER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 375.

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1901.

(For Report for 1900, see No. 344.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 24-40, BACON STREET, E.
And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
HYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ARINGTON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-45] Price 2½d.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
351	Jamaica	1900-1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900
354	Bermuda... ..	1901
355	Gambia	"
356	Falkland Islands	"
357	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
358	Malta	"
359	Gibraltar	"
360	Straits Settlements	"
361	Sierra Leone	"
362	British Honduras	"
363	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
364	Seychelles	"
365	Bahamas... ..	1901-1902
366	Fiji	1901
367	Ceylon	"
368	Barbados	1901-1902
369	Hong Kong	1901
370	Cocos Islands	1902
371	St. Helena	1901
372	British Solomon Islands	1901-1902
373	Jamaica	"
374	Leeward Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand... ..	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas... ..	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific... ..	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla... ..	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas... ..	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
20	Wei Hai Wei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Cariba.

No. 375.

GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 344.)

ACTING GOVERNOR ARTHUR to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,

Accra,

25th October, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a Report on the Blue Book of the Gold Coast for the year 1901, prepared by Mr. G. Attrill, Acting Colonial Secretary.

2. I regret that, owing to the pressure of work that has fallen upon the Secretariat, the staff of that Department having been below strength for a considerable portion of the year, it has not been possible to complete the Report earlier.

I have, &c.,

L. R. ARTHUR,

Acting Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE GOLD COAST FOR THE YEAR 1901.

FINANCIAL.

1. The table below shows the Revenue for the year 1901 compared with that for 1900:—

Heads of Revenue.	Collected in 1900.	Collected in 1901.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs	282,652 10 5	350,916 16 4	68,264 5 11	—
2. Light dues	1,495 10 0	1,476 2 0	—	19 8 0
3. Licenses, Excise, &c. ...	18,475 18 4	20,088 11 2	6,557 17 10	—
4. Fees of Court or office, &c.	19,617 16 9	58,510 15 8	38,892 18 6	—
5. Post office	588 12 7	754 10 5	170 17 10	—
6. Rents of Government property.	42 2 0	45 5 0	3 3 0	—
7. Interest... ..	449 15 6	717 1 6	267 6 0	—
8. Miscellaneous	3,824 5 1	12,895 18 8	8,571 18 2	—
9. Revenue from Ashanti	8,405 14 0	18,888 0 9	15,482 6 9	—
10. Revenue from North- ern Territories.	7,786 7 9	7,324 12 4	—	411 15 5
	838,288 7 5	471,012 18 0	188,160 9 0	481 8 5
Land sales	—	180 10 0	180 10 0	—
	838,288 7 5	471,193 8 0	188,340 19 0	481 8 5
Imperial Grants:—				
(a.) Northern Territories	50,000 0 0	25,000 0 0	—	25,000 0 0
(b.) Ashanti disturbances	202,800 0 0	197,700 0 0	—	4,600 0 0
	585,588 7 5	693,898 8 0	188,340 19 0	80,081 8 5

2. The net increase in the general Revenue for the year, exclusive of grants-in-aid, was higher than that of 1900, which was higher than that of any previous year by £137,909 15s. 7d., and it was £122,998 3s. in excess of the original estimates.

3. The increase in Customs Receipts was due to the expansion of the general import trade of the Colony, the imports for the year being valued at £1,801,027, as against £1,258,963 for 1900, and £1,152,478 in 1899.

4. During the year a large number of spirit licenses were issued, more especially in the Sekondi and Tarkwa Districts, resulting in an increased receipt from this item of Revenue as compared with 1900 of £4,170.

5. The increase appearing under Fees of Court was almost entirely due to Stamp Duties, which amounted to £54,354 14s. 7d., as against £17,347 6s. 7d. received in 1900. The greater portion of the above sum was received for Stamp Duties on concession documents, a large number of which were registered during the year.

6. The increases in the other items of Revenue do not call for special remark. The general improvement of trade, and the large amount of money put into circulation by the railway

works and the mining industry have no doubt been the cause of the all-round increase in the Revenue of the Colony.

7. The increase in "Miscellaneous" is due to Royalties due for 1900 having been paid in 1901, and the increase in "Revenue from Ashanti" to the collection of interest tax.

8. The Imperial Grant for the Northern Territories was £25,000 less than in 1900, when it was £50,000, and included a loan of £25,000 for the extension of the telegraph line, whilst the Revenue derived from those territories was £411 15s. 5d. less.

9. The falling off in the Revenue of the Northern Territories was due to the stoppage of the caravan trade with Ashanti and to the non-sale of trade goods, the year's supply not having been obtained owing to the Ashanti rebellion.

10. The Imperial Grant on account of Ashanti disturbances was £197,700, being the balance of the Imperial Loan of £400,000, of which £202,300 was granted in 1900.

11. The total receipts therefore carried to the general account of the Colony at 31st December amounted to £693,893 3s.

12. The table below shows the Expenditure for the year 1901 compared with that of the preceding year:—

Heads of Expenditure.	Expended, 1900.	Expended, 1901.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Charges on account of public debt.	—	15,178 18 8	15,178 18 8	—
2. Pensions and gratuities	6,292 16 4	6,666 9 1	373 12 9	—
3. Governor and Legislature.	5,808 2 5	5,558 11 2	250 8 9	—
4. Colonial Secretary's Office.	4,249 8 9	4,761 0 10	511 12 1	—
5. Ashanti ...	2,577 10 7	11,085 4 1	8,457 13 6	—
6. Northern Territories...	—	—	—	—
7. Native affairs ...	1,882 9 0	2,891 14 8	1,509 5 8	—
8. Treasury Department	4,758 7 10	5,681 0 11	872 18 1	—
9. Customs ...	14,718 16 4	15,662 12 4	948 16 0	—
9a. Preventive services ...	14,488 8 10	14,097 14 7	—	840 14 8
10. Printing office ...	1,502 5 8	1,725 9 9	223 4 6	—
11. Audit ...	1,875 1 11	1,854 2 9	—	20 19 2
12. Lighthouses and signal stations.	565 11 11	671 10 8	105 18 9	—
13. District Commissioners	8,896 0 3	8,570 8 4	—	325 16 11
14. Supreme Court ...	5,994 5 1	6,725 9 6	781 4 5	—
15. Law Officers ...	1,608 5 7	1,658 0 6	44 14 11	—
16. Ecclesiastical ...	602 18 8	766 13 11	154 0 8	—
17. West African Frontier Force.	19,684 4 2	78,487 5 7	58,808 1 5	—
18. Police ...	12,514 2 8	16,880 8 8	4,816 6 0	—
19. Volunteers ...	515 11 7	867 15 6	352 8 11	—
20. Prisons...	7,470 11 7	8,436 7 8	965 15 8	—
21. Medical ...	15,108 16 4	22,009 19 11	6,901 8 7	—
22. Sanitary ...	2,545 1 5	8,274 12 0	629 10 7	—
23. Public cemeteries ...	870 0 10	428 12 8	58 11 5	—
24. Education ...	7,088 5 9	6,548 0 11	—	495 4 10
25. Botanical stations ...	1,649 11 1	2,215 12 0	566 0 11	—
26. Transport ...	17,087 15 2	24,218 15 7	7,181 0 5	—
Carried forward ...	158,249 8 11	261,192 6 0	104,125 17 8	1,182 15 2

Expenditure—cont.

Heads of Expenditure.	Expended, 1900.			Expended, 1901.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward ...	158,249	8	11	261,192	6	0	104,195	17	8	1,182	15	2
Rent ...	1,190	8	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,190	8	0
27. Miscellaneous ...	18,978	15	10	11,072	4	11	—	—	—	7,901	10	11
28. Post and telegraphs ...	11,915	18	2	16,061	19	1	4,146	0	11	—	—	—
29. Public works ...	10,457	6	9	11,771	19	7	1,314	12	10	—	—	—
30. Public works recur- rent.	14,161	17	8	15,422	15	6	1,260	17	10	—	—	—
Public works extraordi- nary:—	214,948	5	4	315,521	5	1	110,847	8	10	10,274	9	1
From general revenue ...	19,814	1	11	18,958	17	6	—	—	—	5,860	4	5
Services provided by Im- perial grants:—	234,762	7	3	329,475	2	7	110,847	8	10	16,184	18	6
(a.) Northern Territories	87,441	2	9	15,592	1	4	—	—	—	21,849	1	5
(b.) Ashanti disturbances	243,458	9	2	124,892	5	2	—	—	—	119,061	4	0
	515,666	19	2	469,459	9	1	110,847	8	10	157,044	18	11

13. An Expenditure amounting to £19,062 10s. 6d. was incurred under certain heads in excess of the amount estimated; but on the other hand a saving of £43,250 1s. 4d. was effected under other heads of Expenditure, together with a sum of £15,565 18s. 8d., under the Vote for Northern Territories. The actual Expenditure, therefore, was £39,753 9s. 6d. less than the sum provided for by the Estimates.

14. The comparative Statement of Expenditure, 1900 and 1901, exhibits an increased expenditure in 1901, inclusive of the Northern Territories, of £110,847 8s. 10d.—£37,983 14s. 11d. = £72,863 13s. 11d. Of this amount, £53,803 was due to the establishment of the West African Frontier Force; £15,178 to interest charges on advances obtained by the Crown Agents pending the raising of the Railway Loan; and the balance to the reorganization of almost every department of the Service.

15. The Expenditure on the Ashanti disturbances brought to account during the year amounted to £124,392 5s. 2d., which together with the amount expended in 1900, viz., £243,453 9s. 2d., gave a total expenditure of £367,845 14s. 4d. at 31st December, 1901.

16. The above expenditure has been met out of a loan of £400,000 from the Imperial Government, £202,300 of which was received in 1900, and the balance, £197,700, in 1901, as already stated.

17. A comparative Statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the ten years 1892 to 1901 follows, showing the rapid strides which this Colony has made within the last ten years, the Revenue for 1901, exclusive of grants-in-aid, being £471,193 3s., as against £183,074 11s. 1d. in 1892:—

12990

Comparative Statement of Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.			Expenditure.		
Years.	Amount.	Remarks.	Years.	Amount.	Remarks.
1892	£ 183,074 11 1	Includes Imperial Grant-in-aid of £45,000 on account, Northern Territories. Includes Imperial Grant-in-aid of £100,000 on account, Northern Territories. Includes £50,000 Grant-in-aid of Northern Territories and £202,300 on account of Ashanti Disturbances. Includes £25,000 Grant-in-aid of Northern Territories and £197,700 on account of Ashanti Disturbances.	1892	£ 158,103 16 9	Includes £243,453 9s. 2d. expended on account of Ashanti Disturbances. Includes £124,392 5s. 2d. on account of Ashanti Disturbances.
1893	201,782 17 2		1893	178,934 11 5	
1894	218,261 5 7		1894	226,931 19 4	
1895	230,075 12 10		1895	265,289 5 11	
1896	237,460 6 7		1896	282,277 15 8	
1897	233,179 1 6		1897	401,691 10 1	
1898	303,821 12 4		1898	377,975 17 1	
1899	422,795 15 10		1899	309,657 15 3	
1900	585,583 7 5		1900	515,656 19 2	
1901	693,893 3 0		1901	469,459 9 1	

A 4

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

18. The Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December, 1900, showed a surplus of £139,985 17s. 10d.

19. The excess of Assets over Liabilities at 31st December, 1901, amounted to £364,419 11s. 9d. The financial transactions for the year under review, therefore, resulted in an increased surplus of £224,433 13s. 11d., being the excess of General Revenue over Expenditure during the year, as shown by the following figures:—

	£	s.	d.
Revenue	693,893	3	0
Expenditure	469,459	9	1
	<hr/>		
	£224,433	13	11

and which, added to the surplus at 31st December, 1900, agreed with the surplus at 31st December, 1901, viz., £364,419 11s. 9d.

20. This surplus, however, included sums amounting to £32,929 3s. 5d., which cannot be taken as *bond fide* assets, for the reason that they represented expenditure incurred and awaiting adjustment.

21. The following figures give a more correct view of the financial position of the Colony at 31st December:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash on deposit in Bank of British West Africa.	20,000	0	0			
Cash in the hands of the Crown Agents, being balance of the Ashanti loan, £400,000.	140,500	0	0			
Investment on account of Savings Bank Funds.	4,099	14	0			
Investment on account of Public Officers' Guarantee Funds.	1,900	0	0			
Investment on account of Imperial Loan for erection of telegraph lines (not expended).	25,867	4	8			
Securities held on account of the Bank of British West Africa.	10,000	0	0			
Total cash and investments				202,366	18	8
Value of gold ornaments in the Crown Agents' hands.				299	4	1
				<hr/>		
Carried forward ...	£202,666	2	9			

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	202,666	2	9
Advances repayable:—			
	£	s.	d.
Sekondi--Kumasi Railway	142,001	11	1
Government of the Gambia	17	13	0
Government of Lagos ...	651	2	6
Government of Sierra Leone.	446	3	4
Government of Southern Nigeria.	2,711	17	8
Government of Northern Nigeria.	9,677	5	2
Anglo-French Boundary Commission.	1,368	12	11
Anglo-German Boundary Commission.	1,637	8	7
Mines Survey ...	6,005	18	9
Constabulary Reward Fund.	84	18	1
Transport Agency ...	152	8	3
General Post Office, London	902	7	11
Sundry authorized advances.	5,340	17	4
Total advances repayable ...	170,998	4	7
Total <i>bond fide</i> assets ...	373,664	8	2
Less Liabilities amounting to ...	42,173	19	10
Net surplus ...	£331,490	8	4

as against the surplus £364,419 11s. 9d., or a difference of £32,929 3s. 5d., which represented unadjusted Expenditure, as explained.

22. The investment of £25,867 4s. 8d. on account of the loan for the erection of telegraph lines to Gambaga has since been realised and repaid to the Imperial Government.

23. The Expenditure on the railway at 31st December amounted to £767,501 11s. 1d., as against £625,500 borrowed by the Crown Agents, and £142,001 11s. 1d. advanced by the Colony.

24. The advances outstanding at 31st December have since been gone into and the majority of them refunded and adjusted.

Liabilities.

25. The liabilities of the Colony at 31st December amounted to £42,173 19s. 10d., and were made up as under:—

	£	s.	d.
Government of British Guiana	1	6	0
Government of Seychelles ...	610	4	11
Government of Gambia ...	2	14	7
Government of Lagos ...	3,616	16	1
Government of Sierra Leone ...	589	14	2
Government of Southern Nigeria	1,041	13	7
Government of Northern Nigeria	1,164	0	8
Prisoners' property ...	132	3	1
Transport Agency ...	836	11	3
Police Reward Fund ...	562	0	1
Bank of British West Africa ...	10,000	0	0
Official Administrator ...	1,580	13	3
Chief Registrar ...	1,241	16	1
Transport Officer ...	484	0	8
Customs Deposits (Sight Entries)	760	8	11
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	2,606	2	3
Money Order Commission Account.	78	10	4
Inland Money Order Account ...	95	7	7
Savings Bank Account ...	4,460	2	3
General Post Office, London (for Imperial Money Orders).	1,168	13	3
Paymaster, West African Frontier Force.	1,130	4	9
Queen Victoria Memorial Fund	7	6	11
Accra Town Council ...	76	1	10
Drafts between Stations ...	1,980	15	6
Postal Orders ...	143	11	5
Drafts and Remittances ...	1,298	3	4
General Imprest Account ...	1,582	3	3
Sundry Deposits and Unclaimed Estates.	4,922	13	10
Total liabilities ...	£42,173	19	10

26. The liabilities on account of the Savings Bank, Public Officers' Guarantee Fund, and the Bank of British West Africa are secured by investments as shown:—

	£	s.	d.
On account of Savings Bank ...	4,099	14	0
On account of Public Officers' Guarantee Fund.	1,900	0	0
On account of Bank of British West Africa.	10,000	0	0

27. Deposits such as Money Order Commission and Postal Orders represent Revenue awaiting adjustment.

PUBLIC DEBT.

28. The Colony was indebted at 31st December as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Imperial Government—			
(1) Ashanti Expedition, 1896 ...	98,075	8	6
(2) West India Regiment (expenses 1897-1898).	10,051	15	2
(3) Loan for erection of telegraph line to Gambaga.	25,000	0	0
(4) Loan for erection of telegraph lines Northern Territories.	29,441	10	8
(5) Loan for Ashanti War, 1900	400,000	0	0
Total loans due to the Imperial Government.	£562,568	14	4

29. As pointed out, the Crown Agents had lent at interest the loan (£25,000) for the erection of the telegraph lines to Gambaga, and which has since been called in and repaid to the Imperial Government.

30. The Crown Agents at 31st December had obtained advances amounting to £625,500, in anticipation of the raising of the authorised loan of £1,035,000 for the construction of the Tarkwa-Kumasi Railway; in addition to this the Colony had advanced from General Revenue Funds the sum of £142,001 11s. 1d., so that the total Loan Debt of the Colony at that date was £562,568 14s. 4d. + £625,500 + £142,001 11s. 1d. = £1,330,070 5s. 5d.

COMMERCE.

31. The total value of the Imports in 1901 amounted to £1,801,027, and that of the Exports to £559,733, giving a general total of £2,360,760, as compared with £2,180,409 for 1900, being an increase over that year of £180,351.

32. Table 1 shows the value of the trade of the Colony for the last five years:—

TABLE 1.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1897	910,540	857,793	1,768,333
1898	1,101,546	992,998	2,094,544
1899	1,323,218	1,111,738	2,434,956
1900	1,294,963	885,446	2,180,409
1901	1,801,027	559,733	2,360,760

33. From the above table it will be seen that with the exception of 1899 the general total for 1901 is the highest figure that has been reached. There is, however, one noticeable point, which is that whereas in the four previous years the values of the imports and exports bore a more or less equal proportion to one another, the large total for 1901 is entirely due to the large figure given to the imports, for the exports on the other hand have shown a marked increase.

34. Table 2 gives a general classification of all the imports:—

TABLE 2.

Articles.	Value in Sterling.	
	Of Imports in detail : Expenses.	Total Value : Expenses.
I.—Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics.	£ s. d. —	£ s. d. 467,474 3 3
II.—Raw materials :—		
(a) Textile	—	
(b) Metal	71 13 10	
(c) Other	44,946 1 11	
		45,017 15 9
III.—Manufactured articles :—		
(a) Textile	421,714 5 2	
(b) Metal	200,766 13 4	
(c) Other	460,391 12 2	
		1,082,872 10 8
IV.—Coin and bullion... ..	—	205,662 18 4
Total	—	1,801,027 8 0

35. The next table shows the value and the countries of origin for the years 1900 and 1901:—

TABLE 3.

Country of Origin.					1900.			1901.		
					£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
United Kingdom	...	...	...	...	920,279	8	2	1,324,808	16	8
Lagos	..	...	...	...	58,994	4	10	67,541	0	7
Sierra Leone	...	...	...	...	19,047	13	0	16,588	18	1
African Ports	...	...	...	...	15,398	0	0	28,194	9	3
America, United States	...	...	...	...	50,843	15	7	103,127	14	3
Belgium	..	...	...	...	363	17	2	—		
France	...	...	...	...	16,638	12	7	19,741	18	7
Germany...	...	...	...	...	172,861	9	3	192,270	15	6
Holland	...	...	...	...	37,880	13	4	43,946	6	3
Italy	...	...	...	...	3	9	0	1,896	13	1
Portuguese Colony	...	...	...	...	1,022	19	4	2,910	15	9
Spanish Colony	...	...	...	...	1,629	4	9	—		
Total	...	...	...	...	1,294,963	7	0	1,801,027	8	0

36. The United Kingdom has for the two years had the bulk of the import trade with the Colony with 71 per cent. in 1900, which was increased to 73½ per cent. in 1901. Germany was second in 1900 with 13 per cent., and also in 1901; but still her trade fell off slightly to 10½ per cent. Lagos and Sierra Leone together provided 6 per cent. in 1900, which fell to 4½ in 1901; and in 1900 the United States is credited with 4 per cent., which rose to 5½ per cent. for 1901; Holland had 2½ per cent. in 1900, and 2¼ in 1901.

37. The total value of all imports, viz., £1,801,027, during 1901 shows an increase of £506,064, or 39 per cent. over the figure of 1900. The value of the imports paying specific duties was £214,874, as compared with £158,166 for 1900; and that of imports paying *ad valorem* duties was £1,005,041, as compared with £690,856 in 1900.

38. The value of imports free of duty was £581,114, as compared with £445,941 in 1900. These values include freight, insurance and other expenses.

39. The principal articles of import with their values for the years 1900 and 1901 are shown in Table 4:—

TABLE 4.

Article.	Value.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1900.	1901.		
	£	£	£	£
Ale, Beer and Porter ...	4,219	6,577	2,358	—
Firearms	6,748	5,043	—	1,705
Gunpowder	3,110	205	—	2,905
Gin	25,161	47,274	22,113	—
Rum	64,452	84,945	20,493	—
Other Spirits	10,138	17,936	7,798	—
Tobacco, Manufactured ...	4,282	8,531	4,249	—
„ Unmanufactured...	20,859	25,486	4,627	—
Wines	10,122	19,740	9,618	—
Beads... ..	23,546	28,453	4,907	—
Brassware	3,054	4,805	1,751	—
Bread and Biscuits ...	9,277	10,583	1,306	—
Building Materials ...	22,592	25,989	3,397	—
Cordage	15,216	16,706	1,490	—
Cotton Goods	285,566	342,881	57,315	—
Earthenware... ..	6,222	8,759	2,537	—
Hardware	33,305	48,548	15,243	—
Lumber	16,811	20,915	4,104	—
Machinery	29,197	81,337	52,140	—
Perfumery	15,955	22,803	6,848	—
Provisions	96,471	177,564	81,093	—
Salt	4,156	6,716	2,560	—
Silk Goods	25,840	39,260	13,420	—
Soap	10,876	16,953	6,077	—
Specie... ..	195,922	205,663	9,741	—
Sugar... ..	12,117	16,658	4,541	—
Wearing Apparel ...	37,488	52,479	14,991	—
Woollen Goods	15,605	16,701	1,096	—
Other Articles	286,656	441,517	154,861	—
	1,294,963	1,801,027	510,674	4,610

40. The total value of all exports from the Colony for 1901 was £559,713, a decrease of £325,713 on the previous year, and is the lowest figure reached since 1889.

41. Table 5 gives the general classification of all exports:—

TABLE 5.

Articles.	Value in Sterling.		
	Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	British, Foreign and other Colonial Produce and Manufacture.	Total.
I. Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics.	£ s. d. 87 2 6	£ s. d. 711 19 5	£ s. d. 799 1 11
II. Raw materials :—			
(a) Textile ...	33 8 0	—	33 8 0
(b) Metal ...	—	61 2 6	61 2 6
(c) Other ...	510,804 19 10	114 17 6	510,919 17 4
III. Manufactured articles :—			
(a) Textile ...	—	8,508 0 8	8,508 0 8
(b) Metal ...	—	669 3 6	669 3 6
(c) Other ...	1,311 12 2	4,423 17 6	5,735 9 8
IV. Coin and bullion ...	22,186 15 2	10,820 0 1	33,006 15 3
Totals ...	534,423 17 8	25,309 1 2	559,732 18 10

42. Table 6 gives the general values of the exports for 1900 and 1901, together with the countries to which they were shipped:—

TABLE 6.

Country.	1900.	1901.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom ...	509,779 7 5	254,129 9 2
Lagos ...	49,805 19 0	35,256 1 0
Sierra Leone ...	182 4 6	93 17 0
African Ports ...	17,661 12 0	13,211 10 3
America, United States ...	19,371 18 9	22,707 13 5
Belgium ...	3,454 11 11	—
France ...	136,308 1 8	89,526 1 5
Germany... ..	148,277 3 11	144,808 6 7
Holland ...	604 3 2	—
Portuguese Colony ...	0 10 0	—
Totals ...	885,445 12 4	559,732 18 10

43. These figures show not only a decrease in the value of the exports to all the countries, with the exception of the United States, but also a large falling off in the proportion taken by

the United Kingdom, from 57½ per cent. for 1900 to only 45 per cent. in 1901. Germany on the other hand received 17 per cent. of the total amount in 1900, and is credited with 26 per cent. in 1901. France also slightly increased her trade from 15 to 16 per cent., and the United States, although only taking a very small proportion, doubled it from 2 to 4 per cent.

44. Table 7 shows the values of the principal articles of export for 1900 and 1901 with the respective increases and decreases under the various headings:—

TABLE 7.

Articles.	Value		Increase.	Decrease.
	1900.	1901.		
	£	£	£	£
Cola nuts	43,133	35,024	—	8,109
Cocoa	27,280	42,837	15,557	—
Ginger	8	8	—	—
Gold dust	38,007	22,187	—	15,820
Guinea grains	2,032	782	—	1,250
Gum copal	1,087	325	—	762
Ivory	1,508	827	—	681
Lumber	67,747	55,299	—	12,448
Monkey skins	552	59	—	493
Palm kernels	96,936	89,794	—	7,142
Palm oil	238,812	178,174	—	60,638
Rubber	328,156	104,030	—	224,126
Other articles	7,110	5,080	—	2,030
British, foreign, and other Colonial produce and manufactures.	11,957	14,468	2,511	—
Specie... ..	21,121	10,839	—	10,282
Total	885,446	559,733	18,068	348,781
				18,068
Net decrease				325,713

45. The article of export which shows the greatest decrease is rubber, and which also in 1900 showed a falling off in the value exported of £227,575, as compared with the preceding year. Two causes to which this may be attributed are the low prices on the European markets and to a number of the trees and vines having been killed off by people extracting the rubber through ignorance or wishing merely to obtain all the value out of the trees in the shortest time. No doubt, too, considerable difficulty has been experienced the last two years in obtaining labour to collect the rubber and to carry it down to the shipping ports, as large numbers of the natives have

deserted their usual occupations and pursuits, having been attracted to the mines or the railway by the prospect of higher wages; there is, therefore, every hope that with care and attention the rubber trade of the Colony may revive and the values and quantities regain the figures that have been shown in former years. It is almost entirely due to the falling off in the export of rubber that the total values against the United Kingdom in Table 6 show a decrease of £255,649 18s. 3d., and that the proportion of the whole export trade fell 12½ per cent.

46. The other two staple articles of export, viz., palm oil and palm kernels, show a decrease of £60,638 and £7,142 as compared with 1900, although in the latter case, the quantity exported, 12,844 tons, was actually a slight increase on the preceding year.

47. A comparative statement of the quantities and values of palm kernels, palm oil, and rubber exported since 1897 is shown in Table 8:—

TABLE 8.

Year.		Palm Kernels.		Palm Oil.		Rubber.	
		Tons.	£	Gallons.	£	lbs.	£
1897	...	10,836	69,818	2,021,716	107,738	4,957,016	419,813
1898	...	9,732	66,378	2,145,138	114,288	5,984,984	551,667
1899	...	12,663	106,156	3,323,919	183,204	5,572,554	555,731
1900	...	12,811	96,936	4,238,685	238,812	3,542,440	328,156
1901	...	12,844	89,794	3,146,390	178,174	1,520,009	104,030

48. The trade in kola-nuts still shows signs of having been severely affected by the Ashanti rebellion in 1900, as there is a further decrease on the figures of that year of £8,109, but considerable quantities, for which the returns are not available, are exported over the Eastern frontier of the Colony from Ashanti and the Northern Territories.

49. Cocoa is the sole article of export which shows any increase for 1901, and that was considerable, being 994,777 lbs. in weight, and amounting to £15,537 in value. A further increase is expected for the current year, and there is every reason to hope that this satisfactory state of things will continue year by year, since in the Colony the natives are planting more trees and the trade in England is on the increase, the consumption for last year being estimated at 30,000,000 lbs., which was twice as much as in 1895. Accra is the chief port for the shipment of cocoa, as the greater part of it is grown in the districts immediately to the north of the capital of the Colony, and with which there are good means of communication.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS.

50. The total amount received during 1901 was £351,104 12s. 7d., being an increase of £69,759 16s. 6d. over the total receipts of the preceding year, and greatly in excess of the receipts of any previous year.

The receipts were made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
General imports	105,414	5	8
Spirits	245,415	6	11
Gunpowder	166	16	0
Guns	108	4	0
	<hr/>		
	£351,104	12	7
	<hr/>		

and which figure practically represents 75 per cent. of the total ordinary revenue of the Colony (£471,193 3s.) for last year.

51. Table 1 shows how this amount was collected month by month and also gives a monthly comparison with 1900:—

TABLE 1.

Month.	1900.		1901.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
January ...	24,613	3 10	29,290	18 9	4,677	14 11	—	—
February ...	23,954	14 10	26,569	6 8	2,614	11 10	—	—
March... ..	31,543	14 7	30,879	0 9	—	—	664	13 10
April	21,955	7 2	26,946	10 7	4,991	3 5	—	—
May	21,049	15 5	26,208	18 7	5,159	3 2	—	—
June	18,413	7 10	25,967	18 7	7,554	10 9	—	—
July	28,109	19 1	31,107	1 1	2,997	2 0	—	—
August	24,598	6 6	34,724	1 3	10,125	14 9	—	—
September ...	22,124	1 1	29,335	11 9	7,211	10 8	—	—
October	19,375	2 1	29,451	18 11	10,076	16 10	—	—
November ...	23,008	9 6	28,653	1 1	5,644	11 7	—	—
December ...	22,598	14 2	31,970	4 7	9,371	10 5	—	—
Total	281,344	16 1	351,104	12 7	70,424	10 4	664	13 10
Decrease					664 13 10			
Net increase					69,759 16 6			

52. The amounts collected on articles which come under specific duties, as compared with those from articles charged with *ad valorem* duties, is shown in Table 2:—

TABLE 2.

Year.			Specific.	Ad valorem.			Total.
			£ s. d.				£ s. d.
1900	...	...	226,689 1 9	24,655	14 4		231,344 16 1
1901	...	...	268,910 6 2	82,194	6 5		351,104 12 7

53. There are a few additional items of Revenue to be added to the above amount of £351,104 12s. 7d., consisting of—

			£ s. d.
King's warehouse rent	...	...	642 2 7
Warehouse rent	...	...	45 4 4
„ fees	...	...	0 7 6
Light dues	...	...	1,476 2 0
			£2,163 16 5

which makes the total amount received by the Customs Department £353,268 9s. 0d., nett increase in gross receipts over 1900 of £72,259 15s. 8d.

54. There was an increase of £27,539 in 1901 over 1900 from *ad valorem* duties which is satisfactory as being proof that the improvement is not entirely due to an abnormal importation of spirits; the amount collected on spirits and strong waters of all kinds was £245,415, giving an increase of £43,403 on the preceding year.

55. The receipts on guns and gunpowder, which have always been an important item, show a large decrease from £4,522 for 1900 to £275 only in 1901, this being due to the restrictions imposed on the sale of these goods since April, 1900.

56. Table 3 shows the Customs receipts at the principal ports of the Colony during 1900 and 1901:—

TABLE 3

Places.	Imports exclusive of Spirits, Gunpowder and Guns.		Spirits		Gunpowder.		Guns.	
	1900.		1900.		1900.		1900.	
	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.
Accra	16,665	2 9	39,423	5 0	709	6 6	109	6 0
Ada	6,125	0 9	15,571	13 0	102	19 0	42	0 0
Axim	7,459	12 10	17,537	12 8	543	15 0	122	8 0
Cape Coast	23,217	10 3	40,512	16 0	721	3 0	416	14 0
Kwitta	4,047	15 1	8,741	3 9	805	16 0	50	6 0
Saltpond	7,289	11 3	24,755	13 0	230	12 6	76	2 0
Sekondi	2,820	18 7	11,789	7 9	47	10 6	22	4 0
Winneba	3,308	6 0	20,884	1 0	312	5 0	10	8 0
Other Stations	3,876	9 8	22,796	11 9	168	11 6	30	18 0
Total	74,810	4 2	202,012	3 11	3,641	19 0	880	6 0
			245,415	6 11	166	16 0	108	4 0

GOLD.

57. Gold is widely diffused throughout the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories, in quartz formation and alluvial deposits, whilst in Wassau there is good conglomerate (banket). The lack of good roads and means of transporting heavy machinery has proved an obstacle to successful mining on a large scale in the past, but the energy latterly displayed in mining enterprise is resulting in widespread improvement to the road system, and the Sekondi-Kumasi Railway in course of construction overcomes the difficulty of transport to the Wassau District. The following table shows the amount of gold exported in 1901 and in each of the four previous years:—

Years.	Gold and Gold Dust.			
	Ozs.	Ack.	Tek.	Value.
1897	23,544	13	3	£ 84,797
1898	17,732	11	—	63,838
1899	14,249	14	3½	51,300
1900	10,557	6	1½	38,007
1901	6,162	15	—	22,187

During the year 2,825 concessions were filed in the Colony, 41 orders for survey were issued, and 2 certificates of validity. 32 prospecting licenses were issued and 5 prospecting licenses were converted into mining licenses. The number of surveyors' licenses issued was 44.

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

58. There cannot be said to be any agricultural industries. The staple products are palm oil, palm kernels, and rubber. Cocoa is cultivated in certain districts, however, and it will no doubt increase as an industry.

59. At the Botanical Station at Aburi, which is situated at an elevation of 1,400 feet above the sea, a Curator from the Royal Gardens, Kew, endeavours to teach the natives the most approved methods of planting and developing the agricultural resources of the Colony. 44 acres are planted with cocoa, coffee, cotton, tobacco, jute, &c. The cultivation of cocoa owes much of its success to this Station, from whence plants were

first supplied at nominal prices to native planters, who were then instructed and advised with regard to their cultivation and the preparation of the cocoa.

60. The Government during the year also established cocoa-nut plantations on suitable lands near Accra with a view to encouraging the growth of the nut for the production of copra oil and coir.

SHIPPING.

61. The two following tables show (I.) the number, &c., of steam vessels which have visited the Colony during the past three years, and (II.) the number, &c., of sailing vessels.

TABLE I.
Steam Vessels Visiting the Colony, 1899—1900—1901.

Nationality.	1899.			1900.			1901.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Crews.	No.	Tonnage.	Crews.	No.	Tonnage.	Crews.
British	253	416,385	10,402	292	492,914	12,355	284	477,066	12,794
German	91	119,974	3,121	84	116,599	2,915	108	159,986	3,961
French	40	50,653	2,021	34	39,187	1,662	33	42,059	1,516
Belgian	15	41,732	1,003	22	60,660	1,482	9	24,059	635
Spanish	3	2,380	145	1	382	34	—	—	—
Total	402	631,124	16,692	433	703,742	18,448	434	703,120	18,906

TABLE II.
Sailing Vessels Visiting the Colony, 1899—1900—1901.

Nationality.	1899.			1900.			1901.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Crews.	No.	Tonnage.	Crews.	No.	Tonnage.	Crews.
America, United States	11	4,825	95	12	4,858	98	22	7,518	178

12990

B 4

62. The increase of the number of steamers in 1901 over 1899 was 32 (71,996 tons); there was scarcely any difference in numbers when compared with 1900 (434 steamers against 433, but with a decrease in tonnage of 5,622 tons).

63. The services for mails and passengers have shown considerable improvement. There is a weekly British service between the principal ports, viz., Accra, Cape Coast, Sekondi, and Axim and the United Kingdom, the voyage occupying from 16 to 18 days, the vessels sailing from Liverpool direct to Canary Isles or Madeira, but calling at Plymouth homeward. The German mail service is every fifteen days and, like the Belgian steamers which leave Antwerp every three weeks for the Congo Free State, call at Southampton both outward and homeward for mails and passengers.

64. A large increase is shown in the number of sailing vessels, which are almost exclusively employed in carrying rum, tobacco, oil and lumber from the United States.

65. Two wrecks occurred during 1901 in the waters of the Colony, but on neither occasion was there any loss of life. The first was the stranding of the French steamer "Uruguay" in the month of March a few miles west of Sekondi; the second being the stranding of the British schooner "Walleda" a few miles to the east of Accra. In each case most of the cargo was salvaged.

LEGISLATION.

66. During the year 21 Ordinances were passed.

No. 4 confers upon the Governor the necessary powers for the detention and deportation of the Ashanti political prisoners.

Nos. 5 and 6 provide for the allowance of a drawback on goods exported from the Colony on which duties have been paid.

No. 10 constitutes and regulates the Gold Coast Regiment of the West African Frontier Force.

No. 17 facilitates the investment of trust and other funds in the United Kingdom in Gold Coast Government securities.

The Concessions Amendment Ordinance, 1901 (No. 20 of 1901), was passed to remedy certain defects which had during the year been discovered in the working of the principal Ordinance.

The definition of the term "concession" was narrowed so as not to include the assignment of a concession, and prospecting was for the first time defined.

By a ruling of the full Court it had been held that no opposition to a claim could be lodged after the expiration of three months from the date of the filing of the claim. In view of the fact that it was often impossible for landowners to know within that period whether rights had been encroached upon, power was given by Section 7, subject to rules of Court, to lodge notice of opposition at any time prior to the granting of a certificate of validity.

By Section 8, large powers are given to the Court to modify concessions and to impose conditions on concessionaires.

Section 11 increases the powers of the Court with regard to surveys of lands, the subject of concessions, by authorising the Court to require that a survey shall be certified as sufficient by a Government surveyor and to further require that each such survey shall be linked to the general survey of the Colony.

Section 16 prescribes the mode for the recovery of rent due to a native on a concession.

Section 17 reduces the cost of a prospecting license from £30 to £5; the new license does not limit the prospector to a particular area. This section also subjects a mining license to a duty of £30.

The other sections of the Ordinance deal with minor amendments not calling for special notice.

EDUCATION.

PRIMARY.

67. There are two classes of schools in the Colony, Government and Assisted, numbering 7 and 128, respectively. The former are established and maintained by the Government, the latter by the different Mission Societies, &c., and receive annual grants-in-aid from the State towards their support.

They are as follows:—

Denomination.						1899.	1900.	1901.
Basel Mission	...	...	...	...	...	60	61	61
Wesleyan	...	...	...	...	...	50	55	49
Roman Catholic	...	...	...	...	...	12	12	12
Government	...	...	...	...	...	7	7	7
Mohammedan	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Bremen Mission	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	3
African Mission Zion	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	—
Totals	...	...	...	...	...	130	138	135

68. In addition to the schools on the Assisted List there are about 120 small schools which, not having an annual average attendance of 20, are ineligible under the rules for grant.

69. There is no system of local management, as that term is generally understood; indeed, in the majority of villages where schools have been established the only person in any way capable of taking a share in the management of the schools is the master himself. The sphere of each Mission is divided into districts, and an ordained member, either European or native, of the Society represented is appointed to overlook all the schools in his particular district. These managers appoint and dismiss teachers, fix salaries, &c., without any reference to the central authority. That this system is far from satisfactory is at once evident from the fact that a journey of two to three weeks is in some cases necessary to enable a manager to make one short visit to each of the schools for which he is responsible; but, unsatisfactory as the arrangement is, it is under present circumstances, and will be for some considerable time, the only one possible.

70. The following table shows the average attendance and grants-in-aid earned during the last 10 years:—

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS.

Year.	Govern- ment.	Assisted.	Total.	No. on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Grant in-aid.
						£ s. d.
1891-2	5	69	74	6,666	—	1,678 4 0
1892-3	6	66	72	7,350	5,195	2,170 17 6
1893-4	5	70	75	8,174	6,684	2,394 14 0
1894-5	7	93	100	9,954	7,570	3,179 6 0
1895-6	6	109	115	11,205	8,558	3,400 11 0
1897	7	111	118	—	8,478	3,646 13 8
1898	7	112	119	11,181	8,369	3,432 13 1
1899	7	123	130	12,240	9,239	4,129 11 5
1900	7	131	138	11,996	8,911	3,679 13 1
1901	7	128	135	12,018	8,616	3,706 2 7

71. There is a slight decrease in average attendance compared with 1900, which may be attributed to the following causes:—

1. The demand for labour consequent on the great impulse given to the mining industry, and the ease with which boys able to read and write obtained situations.

2. The increase in the number of native clerks employed by merchants.

3. The temporary closing of schools owing to the recent Ashanti rebellion.

The decrease may be taken as temporary.

72. There is no uniformity as yet in the scale of fees at the different Mission schools. At the Government schools, with the exception of Insuaim, which is free, 3*d.* a month is charged for infant and sub-standard classes, and 6*d.* a month for the standards. Fees are charged in the majority of the Wesleyan schools, the amount usually varying with the standing of the scholar from 5*s.* to 1*s.* a quarter.

73. Most of the Basel Mission schools are free; their upper standard schools, which are always boarding, charge about 10*s.* per annum, which includes lodging. No fees are charged at the Bremen Mission schools, nor at six of the 12 schools under the Roman Catholic Mission.

74. The total amounts returned as paid for 1900 and 1901 are as follows:—

School Fees.

Schools.	1900.	1901.	Increase.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Government	210 12 3	212 17 9	—
Wesleyan Mission	407 0 11	450 6 8	—
Basel Mission	93 19 3	115 19 9	—
Roman Catholic Mission	25 0 6	222 11 2	—
Mohammedan	10 10 0	—	—
Total	747 2 11	1,001 15 4	254 12 5

SECONDARY.

75. There is no provision for higher or secondary education, but the Basel Mission have schools at Akropong and Abetifi, at which something better than merely elementary education is taught, and which are attended for a time by most of the teachers employed by that Society.

INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL AND AGRICULTURAL.

76. In 1899 a school for instruction in carpentry was opened by a qualified European master in connection with the Government School, Accra. Attendance at these classes is not confined to scholars from the Government School, children from the higher standards in the local Mission school having the privilege of entry.

77. Most of the schools in the interior have small plantations attached where the scholars receive useful instruction in the cultivation of cocoa, coffee, sisal hemp, cassada, &c.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS.

78. There are Government hospitals at the following places in the Colony:—Accra, Cape Coast, Axim, Elmina, Saltpond, Kwitta, and Kumasi. There is special accommodation for Europeans at the first three, and European nursing sisters at the first two.

79. The number of in-patients treated during the year at the various hospitals was 2,019 compared with 1,185 in 1900.

ASYLUM.

80. There is one lunatic asylum in the Colony. This, in August of 1901, was removed from Christiansborg Castle, to which it had been transferred in June, 1899, and taken back to the Colonial Hospital Asylum, Accra. 63 cases were treated during the year.

81. There are no poor-houses or reformatories in the Colony, and poverty in the strict sense of the word is unknown.

SAVINGS BANK.

82. The deposits during the year, including interest, amounted to £3,626 1s. 8d., and were in excess of the deposits in 1900 (£3,553 5s. 3d.) by £72 16s. 5d.

83. The withdrawals for the same period amounted to £3,622 7s. 9d., and were less than the deposits in the sum of £3 13s. 11d., and as compared with the withdrawals in 1900 (£4,066 11s. 10d.) showed a decrease of £444 4s. 1d.

84. The business done by the Bank during the year under review was, with the exception of last year's transactions, the lowest on record since 1893, and the deposits in place of increasing are steadily decreasing from year to year.

85. The interest accrued on deposits during the year amounted to £101 18s. 8d., and was met out of the amount voted from the General Revenue of the Colony, but as the interest received on the bank's investments (£139 1s. 2d.) was carried to the credit of the General Revenue, the profit to the Colony on the bank's transactions was £37 2s. 6d. This, however, does not include cost of supervision, stationery, &c., for which no charge was made.

	£	s.	d..
The balance due to depositors on 1st January, 1901, was ...	4,456	8	4
The deposits during the year amounted to ...	3,524	3	0
The interest accrued at 31st December was ...	101	18	8
	<hr/> £8,082 10 0		

	£	s.	d.
The withdrawals, inclusive of interest, during the same period amounted to	3,622	7	9
Leaving a balance due to depositors at 31st December of	4,460	2	3

Of the above sum, £4,099 14s. was held by the Crown Agents in securities, while the balance of £360 8s. 3d. was in the hands of the Treasurer at that date.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

POLICE.

86. The total strength of the Police Force at the end of 1901 was 534 of all ranks, or 77 short of the allowed strength, 611.

291 men were recruited during the year, and the dismissals, desertions, discharges, and deaths, &c., during the same period amounted to 244.

PRISONS.

87. Exclusive of Ashanti and the Northern Territories there are 12 gaols in the Colony. During the year 1901 the total number of persons committed was 2,190, the daily average number in prison was 449, the number of deaths was 11, and of executions, 6.

88. The amount realised from sale of prison manufactures, *i.e.*, carpentering, shoemaking, coopering, tailoring, matmaking, &c., was £502 15s. 3d. The gross estimated value of the labour of the prisoners was £5,525 2s. 9½d.; the cost of the Department, £8,436 7s. 3d.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

89. The following are the statistics of crime for the last five years:—

	Apprehensions.					Convictions.				
	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Offences against the person	986	1,089	891	967	1,385	601	593	496	475	944
Offences against property	744	846	788	831	1,038	416	492	416	441	724
Other offences	4,073	4,165	2,362	1,563	2,042	3,469	3,136	1,481	1,186	1,612
Totals	5,803	6,100	4,041	3,361	4,465	4,486	4,221	2,393	2,102	3,280

VITAL STATISTICS.

90. The population of the Colony and Ashanti taken during the year was found to be 1,486,433, exclusive of the Northern Territories. At the previous Census, very roughly taken in 1891, it was estimated to be 1,473,559. The public health for the year was bad both in the European and native communities.

91. Fifteen officials died during the year in a total strength of 188, and 18 were invalided. The following list shows the causes of death:—

Remittent fever	...	...	...	...	8
Bilious remittent fever	...	...	...	...	1
Sunstroke	...	...	...	...	2
Blackwater fever	...	...	...	...	2
Acute meningitis	...	...	...	...	1
Abscess of liver	...	...	...	...	1

Thirty-eight non-officials died and 59 were, it is estimated, invalided. It is difficult to be accurate as to the number invalided as correct records cannot be obtained.

92. The following shows the death and invaliding rate per 1,000 among the European officials:—

No.	Deaths.	Invalided.	Death rate per 1,000.	Invaliding rate per 1,000.
188	15	18	80	95

The number of European non-officials who visited the Colony during the year is not known.

93. The health of the natives during the year was very bad owing to a severe outbreak of small-pox at Accra and Axim and in many villages throughout the Colony. No infection of Europeans occurred.

94. No death-rate can be calculated for the natives owing to the impossibility of obtaining reliable statistics.

95. The progress made in 1901 included—

1. A new hospital at Axim.
2. A new contagious diseases hospital, Accra.
3. General sanitary improvements.

CLIMATE.

96. The following table shows the temperature and rainfall experienced during the year at Accra:—

	Temperature.						Rainfall.
	Solar Maximum.	Minimum. on Grass	Shade Maximum.	Shade Minimum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in Inches.
January ...	150·06	68·09	80·70	75·12	11·70	77·91	2·86
February ...	150·75	70·64	86·92	75·78	11·14	81·85	4·80
March ...	149·67	67·22	84·54	78·85	10·69	81·44	1·60
April ...	147·66	67·86	89·6	75·0	14·4	82·8	4·60
May ...	146·61	65·85	89·25	72·82	16·95	80·78	4·71
June ...	141·6	68·53	86·46	71·28	15·28	78·84	8·48
July ...	134·09	68·08	84·68	69·80	14·61	77·21	1·78
August ...	128·08	64·64	83·67	67·85	18·00	75·51	1·24
September ...	130·00	71·13	82·1	71·6	10·5	78·85	5·17
October ...	130·09	71·89	82·12	70·29	12·00	76·20	2·86
November ...	130·06	71·5	89·1	69·7	19·4	79·4	1·77
December...	129·74	70·96	88·58	71·45	16·90	80·01	1·50
Total for year.	1,668·92	814·87	1,018·95	866·82	156·01	947·17	35·75
Monthly average.	139·07	69·90	84·91	72·23	13·00	78·98	2·97

In 1900 the temperature averaged 78·78 and the rainfall amounted to 23·34.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

97. There is no Department in the Government of the Colony which has had to contend with such a large increase of business during the past year as the posts and telegraphs. The two following tables give comparative statements between 1900 and 1901 of the gross receipts and expenses and show how considerable this increase has been:—

TABLE 1.
Comparative Table of Gross Receipts.

Head.	Receipts.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1900.	1901.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sale of postage stamps for postal purposes	5,094 6 6½	24,040 16 11½	18,946 10 5	— 2 7
Sale of stamps for philatelic purposes	302 14 10	176 12 3	— 5 7½	— — —
Sale of stamps for telegraphic purposes	8,171 17 1	20,633 2 8½	12,461 5 7½	— — —
Sale of judicial stamps...	6,533 10 0	13,829 7 8	7,295 17 8	— — —
Sale of post cards	19 0 7½	19 15 7	0 14 11½	— — —
Sale of registered envelopes	57 10 5½	61 17 10	4 7 4½	— — —
Sale of embossed envelopes	10 14 8	8 7 8	— 1 6	2 7 0
Letter-box rents	59 6 0	102 7 6	43 1 6	— 7 3
Unpaid letter taxes	37 16 7	30 7 4	— 0 1	— — —
Commission on money orders...	308 0 6	440 0 7	132 0 1	— — —
Forfeited money orders	74 8 4	85 15 7	11 7 3	— — —
Postage on parcels	19 6 0	6 16 3	— 13 10	12 9 9
Postal publications	276 9 8	320 8 6	43 18 10	— — —
Duties on parcels	— — —	13 7 0	13 7 0	— — —
Other receipts...	0 4 11	800 8 6	800 8 6	— 0 4 11
Totals	20,965 6 2½	60,569 11 11	39,752 19 2½	148 13 6
Net Increase	...	...	148 13 6	39,604 5 8½

0

TABLE 2
Comparative Table of Gross Expenses.

Head	Expenses.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1900.	1901.		
Salaries, including overtime fees	£ s. d. 6,369 13 0	£ s. d. 8,454 6 9	£ s. d. 2,084 13 9	£ s. d. — — —
Contingent expenses	29 16 5	64 2 8	34 6 3	— — —
Imperial share of foreign postage	508 10 2	994 15 0	486 4 10	— — —
Bureau International	—	—	—	— — —
Postal equipment and clothing	177 19 2	154 6 3	—	23 12 11
Conveyance of mails	1,407 18 0	1,594 10 11	186 12 11	— — —
Stamps—vendors' commission	260 12 0	8 11 9	—	252 0 3
Postage for all departments	21 1 11	21 18 1	0 16 2	— — —
Manufacture of postage stamps, postal cards, &c.	139 11 10	493 11 6	353 19 8	— — —
Temporary clerks	95 5 9	122 17 4	27 11 7	— — —
Maintenance of telegraphs	2,546 13 1	4,079 8 10	1,532 15 9	— — —
Totals	11,557 1 4	15,988 9 1	4,707 0 11	275 13 2
Total Increase	...	...	275 13 2	4,431 7 9

98. The estimated number of letters, post cards, newspapers, books, sample packets, and circulars received and despatched during the year was 8,611,518, as compared with 2,782,776 for 1900, showing an increase of nearly 400 per cent.

99. The total number of telegrams dealt with was 199,424, containing 2,880,025 words, as compared with 140,315 messages of 2,565,807 words in 1900, an increase of 59,109 and 314,218 messages and words, respectively.

100. The total number of cablegrams handed in at offices in this Colony for the United Kingdom and other parts of the world amounted to 6,911, to the value of £16,277 8s. 5d., the Government proportion of this amount being £695 11s., while £15,581 17s. 5d. was paid to the African Direct Telegraph Company. The African Direct Telegraph Company handed over to the Post Office 6,400 messages for transmission, upon which the Colony's share amounted to £644 12s. 1d. There is an increase in the total number of cablegrams received and forwarded during the year of 125 per cent. over the previous year.

101. There is a telephone exchange at Accra connected with all the Government offices and some of the leading business houses.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

102. By Ordinance 10 of 1901 the defensive force of the Colony was completely reorganised, and the Gold Coast Constabulary became the Gold Coast Regiment of the West African Frontier Force, consisting of two battalions, each battalion comprising such number of companies of infantry and batteries of artillery as the Governor may from time to time direct.

103. The 1st Battalion of the regiment has its headquarters at Kumasi, and the 2nd Battalion at Gambaga in the Northern Territories.

104. At the end of the year the total strength of the 1st Battalion was 30 officers, 2 European non-commissioned officers and 1,370 native non-commissioned officers and privates; of the 2nd Battalion, 17 officers and 572 native non-commissioned officers and privates.

105. The total expenditure on this Force for the year was £73,437 5s. 7d.

106. The Gold Coast Rifle Volunteers which were raised in 1892 had a total strength at the end of the year of 266 officers, non-commissioned officers and men. The Volunteer Force of

the Colony was strengthened by the formation of machine-gun sections at Accra and Cape Coast, recruited from Europeans.

107. The members are armed with '303m. Martini-Enfield carbines, and the guns in use are '303m. Maxim machine guns on tripod mountings.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

108. The operations against the Ashantis which were carried on from the previous year were brought to an end and a general amnesty and pardon was proclaimed on the 10th June. The pardon did not extend, however, to the persons in custody at the time, nor to certain other persons wanted by the Government.

109. Progress was made with the Sekondi-Tarkwa-Kumasi Railway, 30 miles being completed during the year, the railhead being 15 miles beyond Tarkwa on 31st December, 1901.*

110. The cost of living continued to increase. The large influx of Europeans consequent upon the mining boom greatly raised the price of domestic labour, and a proportionate increase in the price of food followed. Labour was never more difficult to obtain, nor was money ever more plentiful among the native community.

111. It is very unwise for any European to come to the Colony on the *chance* of obtaining employment. During the year several cases of Europeans being in a destitute condition were brought to notice. There is no system or means of relief for paupers in the Colony.

GEO. ATTRILL,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

25th October, 1902.

* On the 4th December, 1902, the railhead had reached a point 114 miles from Sekondi.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No 357.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1901.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1902.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 24-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1902.

[Cd. 788-27.] Price 1½d.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's
Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from
the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
339	British Honduras	1900
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar	"
343	Basutoland	1900-1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	"
346	Northern Nigeria	1900-1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900-1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900-1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900
354	Bermuda	1901
355	Gambia	"
356	Falkland Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.

No. 357.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.

GOVERNOR MAJOR NATHAN to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Accra,

14th April, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report on the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast for the year 1901, prepared by Lieutenant-Colonel A. H. Morris, D.S.O., who was in charge of those Territories as Commissioner and Commandant from the 7th April, when he relieved the late Major J. F. Sheppard, D.S.O., who had been acting as Commissioner and Commandant during the Ashanti rising.

2. The ownership of Kwobia (Pabia), referred to in the first paragraph of the report, will be decided on the results of the survey now being made by the Anglo-German Boundary Commission, which commenced its work early in October of last year, and on the 15th March of this had reached the place in question.

3. The steps taken to suppress slave-raiding in the neighbourhood of Gambaga appear to have met with a satisfactory result.

4. You have been fully informed from time to time with regard to the arrangements for the expedition, which should by now have completed its operations in the Tiana country and in certain parts of the Fra-Fra sub-district, an expedition rendered necessary to protect the loyal and orderly parts of the country against the periodical raids of their savage and turbulent neighbours.

5. Lieutenant-Colonel Morris's former anticipation that force would have to be employed before the Dagomba chiefs would come definitely under our control was happily not realized.

6. The revenue for the year 1901 stated to be £7,415 4s. 3d. was, if this statement, which has not yet been verified from the Treasury accounts, is correct, slightly below the revenue of £7,736 7s. 9d. shown in the Treasury books as received in 1900. The expenditure in 1901 has not yet been completely estimated;

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.

some difficulty is being experienced in arriving at it with exactness, owing to much of it being incurred on the Gold Coast and in Ashanti for transport, &c.

In preparing the estimates for the current year under each vote, the amounts required specially for the Northern Territories have been abstracted with the result that the total estimated expenditure, including £23,038 11s. 7d. for the Northern Territories battalion of the West African Frontier Force, amounts to £52,381 11s. 7d. The revenue is put down at the same amount as for the two previous years, viz., at £8,000.

7. As soon as the Fra-Fra expedition has been brought to a close I propose to instruct Lieutenant-Colonel Morris to arrange for an officer to be stationed at Salaga, where, in addition to collection of revenue, he will have important administrative duties to perform.

8. In the Annual Report on the Medical Department the health of the Northern Territories in 1901 was stated to have been moderately good, and this statement is confirmed by Lieutenant-Colonel Morris, in whose opinion that the climate of the Northern Territories is superior to that of the coast I entirely concur. Of the two cases of deaths of officers who had served in the territories, Major Sheppard's, from blackwater fever, after his return to the United Kingdom, very probably was due to his service in those territories, but I am very doubtful whether this was the case with Captain Dawson, who died at Accra, after having been for some days at Cape Coast during an unhealthy period. The liability of officers to suffer from their journey to the coast will no doubt be decreased when the part of the journey from Kumasi will be accomplished in a day by the railway. The steps taken by Lieutenant-Colonel Morris to secure good sanitary conditions for the Europeans at Gambaga appear to have been entirely in the right direction. I am enquiring of him whether any special precautions are taken to protect men at work in the heat of the day from the effects of exposure to the sun, as I am convinced that a large proportion of the fatal cases in the Colony proper are the result of such exposure.

9. It is unnecessary for me to comment on Lieutenant-Colonel Morris's remarks on the subject of the troops in his command, as I dealt fully with this subject in forwarding the report of Brigadier-General Kemball on his inspection of the battalion.

10. With regard to recruiting, I am asking Lieutenant-Colonel Morris to do all he can to recruit for the battalion in Ashanti, which on the 31st March was still 310 below establishment in the native ranks. The battalion in the Northern Territories is up to its establishment.

11. The detailed census returns for the Northern Territories will shortly be submitted to you with the complete census report for the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories.

The total figure of 317,964 given by Lieutenant-Colonel Morris would indicate a population of rather over 8·3 per square mile, the area of the Territories being about 38,000 square miles. This is a sparse population. I am doubtful, however, whether, adults only having been counted, an addition of 50 per cent. is sufficient for children.

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.

12. I shall deal shortly in a separate despatch with the question of a subsidiary nickel coinage for the Northern Territories.

13. I am not entirely satisfied that it was advisable to close the store at Wa, which ought to have led to a growing appreciation of European goods among the people on the western side of the Territories; the failure of the store was probably due to want of interest in and supervision of it, and these to the station having been short-handed during the whole of the year. There seems to have been a good reason for closing the store at Kintampo.

14. The conveyance of stores to the Northern Territories as far as Kumasi is now under the control of the Transport Department at Cape Coast. The greater charge for this part of the journey compared with the part between Kumasi and Gambaga is obviously due to the higher rates of wages prevailing on the coast, where the competition for labour is higher.

I intend repeating this year the experiment of sending up a certain proportion of stores for the Northern Territories, *via* the Volta river, under conditions which I anticipate will lead to a better result than the experiment of 1900.

15. In a report with which Brigadier-General Kemball was good enough to furnish me on his journey down the Volta river, he took the same view as Lieutenant-Colonel Morris that the road *via* Salaga and the river will eventually be the route from Gambaga to the coast.

16. I shall arrange that fruit seeds with instructions for growing plants from them are sent up to Gambaga from Aburi.

17. The steps taken by Lieutenant-Colonel Morris to encourage cultivation and the rearing of stock appear to me sound. Government enterprise in these matters is necessary as an example to the natives.

18. On the whole the report for the year 1901 may be considered satisfactory. I trust that on the conclusion of the present expedition in the Fra-Fra country the Chief Commissioner will find it possible to select from the officers now in the Northern Territories men on whom he can rely to introduce into the out-stations the same good order as appears to reign at Gambaga.

I have, &c.,

M. NATHAN,

Governor.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR THE YEAR 1901.

POLITICAL.

1. Our relations with the two great European Powers, whose territory adjoins this hinterland on three sides, have been of the most cordial nature throughout the past year. On my arrival here in April I found that a question had arisen with reference to the possession of Kwobia (Pabia), which till its occupation by German troops in February had always been considered as British, it being shown on all maps in our possession as being several miles to the west of the meridian, passing through the point of intersection of the Daka with the 9th parallel. A detachment of British troops was thereupon sent to Kwobia and the matter referred to our respective Governments, who decided that the place should be considered as neutral till the frontier had been delimited by the Anglo-German Boundary Commission. Troops on both sides were therefore simultaneously withdrawn at the beginning of July. I am glad to be able to report that during the joint occupation of Kwobia the greatest good feeling existed between the troops on both sides.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

2. During the early months of the year a considerable amount of looting took place within a radius of 30 miles of Gambaga, frequent raids being made for the acquisition of women, children, and cattle. Since my arrival in April two important gangs of robbers have, however, been broken up, and 80 cases of slave-dealing, looting, and raiding of women and children dealt with. The prompt measures taken to check all slave-dealing and raiding, and the severe punishments inflicted for these offences, have had a most salutary effect, and they have now become extremely rare, except in remote parts of the Administration, where, owing to the paucity of officers, it has not been possible to establish British posts.

The kidnapping of children, however, is most difficult to detect and to put a stop to, as the children are so often found straying outside the outskirts of their village; they are then picked up by some prowling thief, frequently a woman, and carried away a dozen miles before they are missed. The child is then sold, very often to some woman, who, being without children, wishes to adopt one, and in a few months becomes so attached to its new home that, as has happened in several cases brought before me, when found it frequently refuses to return to its real parents.

With the exception of the Tiansi district and certain parts of the Fra-Fra country, lying close to the 11th parallel of north latitude between 1° and 0° west longitude, the whole of the Protectorate is in a most peaceful state. It is very satisfactory

to be able to report the thorough and complete submission of the Dagombas. A large "palaver" was held at Gambaga last July for the purpose of presenting the Dagomba kings with lockets, similar to those bestowed on the other chiefs in the Northern Territories in 1899. I took this opportunity of informing the Dagombas that now they were under our rule and protection all slave-dealing and raiding must cease, and they must obey all orders that might be given them. They expressed their loyalty to His Majesty and their readiness to obey all orders. These promises they have faithfully kept, and given me the greatest assistance in the making of roads and providing of carriers. The two Martini-Metford carbines which were taken by them from us in January, 1898, have also been returned.

REVENUE.

3. The revenue during the past year amounts to £7,415 4s. 3d., as against £3,980 3s. 2d. in 1899. No annual report was sent in by the late Major Sheppard for 1900, nor were complete returns kept up, so that I am unable to make comparisons with that year. I attach a return, which shows the amount of revenue collected each quarter in the different districts. I also attach a further return showing the number of animals and loads on which taxes have been levied.

Comparing this return with 1899, it is found that the amount realised in 1901 from caravan taxes exceeds that of the previous year by nearly £1,100. The chief increase is in the number of sheep passing through the territories, 28,683 paying taxes against 18,773 in 1899. There is also an increase of nearly 3,000 loads as regards kola nuts. I am of opinion that these figures may be considered as satisfactory, as they tend to show that there is a considerable general increase of trade.

I desire to point out that the amount to be realised from the collection of caravan taxes altogether depends on the number of officers at one's disposal.

Unless there is an officer at every main trade centre, through which the large caravans pass, the tax will undoubtedly be evaded, and the revenue suffer, as was the case last year, when owing to the paucity of officers I was unable to establish officers' posts at Tumu, Bole, Walewale and Salaga.

There is no doubt that the establishing of a post at Salaga, which town is the destination of the majority of the caravans, owing to its being one of the chief centres of the kola nut trade, will lead to a considerable increase of the revenue to be derived from caravan taxes. It is very satisfactory to be able to report that no complaints have been received from the caravans that they have been called upon to pay tolls to any of the chiefs of the various districts through which they pass. It is thoroughly understood by all traders that the payment of the small Government tax frees them from any further toll, and that they will

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.

receive quick and ready redress for any wrong they may suffer at the hands of any chief or people. The Maintenance tax has now been abolished with the approval of the Secretary of State, and will not be collected in future. It was considered that its imposition gave the native chiefs great opportunities for extortion. Although, however, there will be a loss to the revenue during 1902 of nearly £1,200 Maintenance tax, it is considered that this will be more than counterbalanced by the sums paid by mining companies for prospecting licences and rights of option.

The leases when taken up will result in a large increase of revenue. In the course of a very few years, as soon as the river service has been established, thus leading to a large reduction in the cost of transport, and the leases of mines taken up, I am extremely hopeful that the Protectorate will be almost self-supporting, and will be able to pay the whole expenses of its administration except the cost of the troops.

GENERAL HEALTH.

4. As all medical returns are now sent direct to the Principal Medical Officer at Accra, I am unable to furnish statistics of the health of either Europeans or Hausas. I am, however, of opinion that the general health of Europeans stationed in the Protectorate during the past year might be considered as fairly satisfactory; no officers have died within the Northern Territories during this period, though the deaths of both Major Sheppard and Captain Dawson were due to their service in these territories, the former dying last June at home a few days after landing, the latter at Accra in April.

No officers have been invalided before the expiration of their tour of service, though several left the territories in a very weak and feeble state. Everything possible is being done to improve the health of the officers serving here. Excellent rations consisting of flour, sugar, rice, tea, &c., have been sent out from England, and can be obtained on payment: these, combined with a regular supply of fresh milk and also European vegetables for eight months of the year, have conduced greatly to the maintenance of health.

There is no doubt that the climate of the Northern Territories is superior to that of the coast; the fever is of a milder type, and the patient appears to recover from its effects more rapidly.

I venture to state, however, that the better health enjoyed by officers up here is due more to the healthier life led than the superiority of the climate; the proper carrying out of one's duties necessitates the taking of three or four hours' exercise a day.

At the end of their twelve months tour officers, however, appear almost as much "run down" as on the coast, and I would most strongly urge the advisability of relieving all European officials up to date as much as possible, as it must be remembered

that an arduous journey of 500 miles has to be undertaken at the end of one's tour before the coast line is reached; this journey is a great strain on Europeans in a weak state of health.

The only epidemic in the Northern Territories during 1901 was an outbreak of small-pox at Kintampo in April, of which there were 17 cases, three of whom died. The energetic measures taken by Dr. Graham checked the outbreak, and there were no further cases after May.

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.

Although every facility is afforded the natives of free medical treatment not many avail themselves of this privilege. In Kintampo—which being the nearest to the coast may be considered as one of the most civilised towns, and is also one of the largest—Dr. Graham informs me that he treated 514 cases in nine months, including men from the surrounding villages. These cases may roughly be divided into two classes :—

1st. The well-informed native from the coast, who has experienced and has some confidence in European treatment.

2nd. The pauper, who is too poor to pay the high fees demanded by the native practitioner, and who attends the European medical officer as a "pis aller," but with great distrust.

It is extremely difficult to carry out efficient treatment for either class, for by the first class orders are systematically disobeyed, and native treatment pursued simultaneously. By the second the medicine given to be taken internally is frequently applied externally or carried as a charm. Both classes easily become discouraged unless an immediate effect be produced, and cease to attend before time enough has been spent to effect a cure.

Now that so much attention is being paid to Dr. Ross's anti-mosquito campaign in West Africa, it may be perhaps of interest to mention our efforts in this direction in Gambaga.

Following out the instructions for the prevention of malarial fever, published by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, I caused all holes that might contain puddles, and so become breeding grounds for the anopheles mosquito, to be filled up.

Some hollows in rocks were discovered containing about 18 inches of water filled with thousands of larvæ.

The Hausas' and Carriers' lines were inspected twice a week in order to ensure no stagnant water being allowed to remain in old pots or tins. The general result has been an immense reduction in the number of mosquitoes. With regard to my own quarters, in addition to taking these sanitary measures, I had every mosquito killed so far as possible as soon as it appeared. The result of this was that my own house was nearly free from mosquitoes, and I have only had half a day's fever during my time in Gambaga (nearly ten months); whether this immunity has been due to the absence of the mosquito I do not venture to say.

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.

So far as the means at one's disposal will allow, all houses for Europeans have been built with the utmost regard to sanitary regulations. They are not crowded together, and are at some distance from the native quarters. Each of them is surrounded with a large open compound from which the rank vegetation has been cleared away, as well as all trees in the immediate vicinity of the house.

TROOPS.

5. The troops here are composed of a battery and the 2nd Battalion of the Gold Coast Regiment of the West African Frontier Force, and have been raised from the tribes of this hinterland. They make excellent soldiers, as they are of fine physique, most amenable to discipline, and extremely anxious to learn their work. Their behaviour has been extremely good, and there have been very few cases of serious crime.

There were 28 desertions during the past year, 24 of them being recruits with only a few weeks' service. I made especial enquiries into the cause of these desertions, and found that these young soldiers, after having joined for a few days, took advantage of their improved social position to obtain as much credit as possible both from their comrades and from the traders in the town. As soon, however, as their creditors began to press for payment, and to threaten to take legal proceedings, the recruits freed themselves from their pecuniary obligations by flight.

The men turn out very well on parade, and take a pride in their appearance and in wearing His Majesty's uniform. Several of the old non-commissioned officers, whose only claim to promotion lay in their age, have left the force, and a considerable number of smart young non-commissioned officers promoted; every man knows that promotion will be by selection, and that it rests entirely with himself as to the rank he attains. The drill of the men is very good and steady; every opportunity is taken of teaching the non-commissioned officers how to command their own sections, and every encouragement given to these section commanders to use their intelligence and act on their own initiative. The musketry of the battalion has much improved, and the men take great interest in their shooting. I am much indebted to the officers commanding companies for their zeal and energy in training and looking after their men, and especially wish to mention in this respect Captain A. H. Walker-Leigh and Captain J. O'Kinealy, Royal Garrison Artillery, who has done much to improve his small battery during the short time he has been in command.

RECRUITING.

6. Recruiting has been carried on with much success during the past year, 282 recruits having been obtained. Sixty-nine recruits were raised in 1899, and 153 in 1900, so that the recruiting in the Northern Territories during 1901 shows a great

improvement over past years, especially as the standard has been considerably raised, no men being accepted under 5 feet 6 inches in height and 34 inches chest measurement.

I am of opinion that this hinterland is a most valuable field for recruiting; the men are of excellent material, most amenable to discipline, fairly intelligent, and extremely desirous of learning their work. I have shown in the table below the various tribes from which the recruits during the past year have been enlisted.

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST
1901.

Dagarti.	Dagombas.	Fra-Fras.	Fulanis.	Grunahs.	Grunahia.	Hausas.	Kanjargas.	Kipalia.	Kotokolis.	Moshis.	Wongaras.	Yorubas.	Zebarimas.	Total.
25	22	5	16	13	57	15	33	4	3	40	15	8	21	282

In my annual report for 1899 I strongly recommended that the "bringing money" reward should be paid directly a recruit was approved of by me, on the grounds that nothing more discourages the bringer of a recruit than not receiving his reward at once. This recommendation was sanctioned last April with very beneficial results.

CENSUS.

7. A census was taken of this hinterland last year with fairly satisfactory results, especially when one considers the very short time these territories have been under our rule; the total counted adult population amounted to 107,964, there being 2,000 more males than females.

In order to get a more approximately accurate account 104,000 was added to the above numbers as a considerable portion of the country was not counted. Only the adult population has been included in these figures; it was suggested, therefore, that 50 per cent. should be added for children, viz., 106,000, so that the estimated total population of the Northern Territories amounts to 317,964.

It is with great satisfaction I am able to report that in the districts of Mamprusi, Dagomba, Gonja, Kintampo, Bole, Wa, and Grunshi, the chiefs gave every assistance, and readily accepted my assurance that the counting had nothing to do with the bringing in of a tax or making additional calls upon them for free labour.

In Dagarti the enumerators were received in many places with considerable suspicion; whenever this took place the counting was not proceeded with. The Fra-Fra district I did not attempt, as it would not have been safe to send anyone to count them without an escort, which would have defeated its own object.

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.

SILVER CURRENCY.

8. I am of opinion that the introduction of the English silver coinage into this Protectorate has had an excellent effect in the encouragement and increase of trade.

The enormous disadvantages of the cowrie coinage are obvious when one considers that one pound's worth of cowries are a heavy carrier load.

I find, however, that the threepenny (3d.) piece, the lowest silver coin now in circulation, is of too high a value (being equal to 250 cowries) to answer all requirements, as the native when making his usual daily purchases of food, &c., buys a variety of small things, ranging in value from ten (10) to thirty (30) cowries each. I wish, therefore, most strongly to recommend the very early introduction of a subsidiary coinage made of nickel, and am of opinion that the coins most required are a penny and a half-penny piece, equivalent roughly to eighty (80) and forty (40) cowries respectively. I do not think that it would be at all necessary to go below these coins in value, as the cowrie coinage must remain the medium for all very small purchases in the way of foodstuffs, &c.

I do not recommend the introduction of the copper coinage into the Northern Territories, as I am of opinion that the coppers would be mostly turned into rings and other ornaments.

TRADE GOODS.

9. I attach returns showing the amount of trade goods sold each quarter in the Government stores at Gambaga, Wa, and Kintampo.

The stores at Kintampo and Wa were not a success, and have therefore been closed, the goods being either sold off by auction or transferred to Gambaga. It was found that the store at Kintampo was not required, as owing to its proximity to the coast a considerable number of traders had already established themselves there.

The receipts in the Gambaga store show also a considerable falling off, chiefly in the March quarter, when only £21 were taken. This was due to two reasons: First, because little interest was taken in the sales at that time, and no attempt made to keep the Government salesman up to his work; second, the goods asked for in March, 1900, had not arrived, and consequently there was a lack of the more popular articles. As soon as the fresh goods arrived the sales at once increased, and there was as great a demand as ever for cotton prints, grey and blue bafts, white Croydon linen, cheap silk handkerchiefs, pomade, looking glasses, basins, pipes, &c.

There is no doubt that this store has answered the purpose for which it was originally started, viz., as the pioneer of ordinary

commerce, and that its establishment has created a demand for goods which did not before exist.

Several coast traders have arrived here and are doing a prosperous trade; I am of opinion that in another two years the necessity of continuing the Government trade goods store will no longer exist.

As soon as a cheaper system of transport can be elaborated, I consider that there will be a great opening for trade in this Protectorate.

TRANSPORT.

10. The question of the cost of transport has had my most serious attention, and has been cut down as much as possible. I wish to point out that the chief cost of transporting loads to the Northern Territories lies altogether outside my administration, and is not under my control. For the first 250 miles from the coast to Kintampo the route lies outside the Northern Territories, and the charge for a load over this section is £1 17s. The rest of the route from Kintampo to Gambaga, almost identical in length, costs 13s. for the transport of a load, which cannot be considered excessive.

An experiment was tried at the end of 1900 of sending rations up to Kintampo in canoes by the Volta from Ada. It was not however a success, as the greater part of the stores took nearly six months to reach Longoro, the port for Kintampo, and one day's journey from that station, and then arrived in a very damaged condition, at least one-fifth of the Maconochie meat tins being so bad that they had to be destroyed.

The finding however of gold in the Northern Territories, and the consequent taking up of concessions by influential mining companies, will soon solve all difficulties as regards transport, as in order to successfully work the mines it is absolutely necessary that the Volta should be made navigable for stern wheel steamers to enable machinery, &c., to be brought up. Once the river service has been established the cost of transport will be reduced over 100 per cent., as it will then be possible to bring all stores intended for Kintampo up by river to Longoro, a few miles only from that place. Those for Gambaga would be landed at Yegi and brought thence by road *via* Salaga to Gambaga, which by the new road I am at present making is 10 days' journey from Yegi.

I am of opinion that it would be altogether premature to at present consider the question of extending the river service up the White Volta to Daboya, as it must be remembered that the cost of making this part of the river navigable would have to be borne by the Government and not by the mining companies, the area of the supposed gold fields being in the valley of the Black Volta and not the White. The journey from Daboya to Gambaga is also only three days shorter than from Yegi, so that the few days gained would not compensate for the extra cost involved.

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.

ROADS.

11. The roads already made have been kept cleared and in good repair. I am at present engaged in constructing a good permanent road from Gambaga to Salaga, *via* Karaga, Ga, Garewea, Kapendi, and Donkokade. Although this route is not the main trade route to Salaga from the countries to the north-east of this Protectorate, as it does not pass through Kobia, which is the centre on which the chief trade routes converge, I was however of opinion that it would have been most inadvisable to defer the construction of a good road from Gambaga to Salaga till the exact position of Kobia had been settled by the Anglo-German Boundary Commission. Should it fall to Germany I am of opinion that the fact of a good road being made in a direct line from Gambaga to Salaga will divert a considerable amount of trade from Kobia. Already a considerable number of caravans from Gambaga are using the new road instead of going, as previously, through Patenga and Kobia.

The new road is 16 feet wide with shallow ditches on either side, and when completed will, as soon as the river service has been established to Yegi, be by far the shortest route to Gambaga from the coast. There has been no difficulty in procuring local labour, but the paucity of officers has greatly interfered with its construction, as the natives will not remain at the work without the supervision of an European officer, who must make all measurements and lay out the proper direction.

I hope, however, that this road will be nearly completed by the end of June: this does not include the bridging of several streams and draining a certain number of swamps, which will require the services of a Foreman of works next dry weather.

BUILDINGS.

12. The arrival of a Foreman of works in Kintampo last July has enabled several buildings of a permanent nature to be constructed.

A commodious store has been built at Kintampo with brick walls and shingle roof; a magazine and treasury are also being constructed. At Gambaga a new house with suitable offices has been built for the Chief Commissioner; a new magazine, treasury, and quartermaster's stores are also about to be built. Shingles are not obtainable round Gambaga, the Chief Commissioner's house has therefore been roofed with grass; the magazine, treasury, and quartermaster's stores will have sheet iron roofing, which is about to be sent up from the coast. The construction of these permanent buildings, especially if the floors can be made of cement, will result in a considerable saving to Government, as hitherto there has been a great waste of stores owing to the ravages of white ants.

HORTICULTURAL.

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.

13. The seeds sown in the Government gardens this year have been a success, especially in Gambaga, where radishes, tomatoes, French beans, egg-plants, cabbages, lettuces, and kohl rabi were grown with very satisfactory results; cucumbers and turnips were only fair. The tomatoes were most productive: a careful succession of sowings provided a continuous supply throughout the year; during the rains the fruit was as fine as if grown in England under the most favourable circumstances. The arrival of the Harmattan in November completely destroyed all the other vegetables. To grow vegetables with any success in this country it is essential that the garden should be under careful European supervision, so as to ensure the seeds being at first grown under grass shelters and liberally watered twice a day.

I cannot speak too highly of the enormous benefit to health derived from this supply of English vegetables, especially in a country where the native supply is both scanty and indifferent.

There are now a considerable number of papaw trees in Gambaga, the majority of which are bearing fruit; these trees were first planted in 1899. I have also at present a large number of young trees, which will be planted about the cantonments at the beginning of the rainy season.

The Northern Territories are singularly destitute of fruit, and I would therefore suggest that the experiment be tried of producing other native fruits that are found to do well on the coast, such as pineapples, bananas, mangoes, oranges, guavas, &c. The results, if successful, would greatly contribute to the health and comfort of all Europeans residing in this Protectorate.

HARVEST AND FOOD SUPPLY.

14. The harvest throughout the whole Protectorate has been plentiful. There has been no plague of locusts as was the case in 1900, when much damage was done. The native, however, is of an improvident nature, and it is with the utmost difficulty that he can be induced to sow sufficient corn to last him for the whole year. The result of this is that large numbers of them live in a state of semi-starvation for four months, from April to July, when the harvest of the new crops begins. As I did not arrive in Gambaga till the end of April I was only able to put a few acres under cultivation as a Government farm; the results, however, were so far satisfactory, as nearly £10 worth of maize, millet, and ground nuts were reaped at a cost of £3 for seed.

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.

Free labour was utilised in accordance with the old-established custom by which free labour is always supplied to kings for the cultivation of their farms.

The Government herd is also being worked with success, and a number of stock reared during the year; £262 worth of cattle were sold during 1901 to the butchers. In order to encourage the rearing of stock in the neighbouring districts, and to induce the cattle dealers in Gambaga to follow my example, I sent natives out to purchase cattle in the surrounding country, paying for them at the current rates. These cattle were readily sold by auction to the butchers at nearly 100 per cent. profit. Enterprise, however, except amongst the Mahomedan traders, is not a native characteristic, and the dealers preferred waiting till animals were brought into Gambaga to going further afield, though they were aware that a large profit would be the result of their trouble. Still it is satisfactory to note that every year sees an increase in the number of acres put under cultivation, and more food brought into the markets.

ADMINISTRATION.

15. This Protectorate is now administered under the Northern Territories Administration Ordinance, by which the Chief Commissioner is given extensive powers. Very stringent laws exist prohibiting the importation into the Protectorate of any trade spirits, and I most sincerely hope that such laws will always remain in force, no matter what the loss may be to the revenue, as I am confident that the import of trade spirits will lead to a vast increase of crime, especially "Manslaughter" and "Murder," crimes which at present are of the rarest occurrence.

My experience of these territories dates from 1899, and I have no hesitation in saying that they have made huge strides along the road to civilization since that date; the inhabitants fully appreciate the justice as well as the power of our rule, and will travel many days' journey not only to get redress for any wrongs they may have suffered, but to ask for one's decision in any matter of importance.

This administration is a very large one, nearly 50,000 square miles, and I cannot too strongly urge the vast importance of only the best officers being selected to hold the appointments of District Commissioner. An officer without tact or the ability to take a keen interest in the welfare of his district is not only useless in these territories but a source of danger, as it takes months to wipe out from the minds of the natives the effects of grievous blunders or injustice. Any official who deals with these people patiently, honestly, and fairly, paying due consideration

to their native customs and their national characteristics, will have no difficulty in winning their confidence, and will find that they are capable of fully appreciating his efforts for their welfare.

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.

A. MORRIS, Lieut.-Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

Gambaga,

28th February, 1902.

**NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.**

GENERAL

**RETURN showing amount of REVENUE realised in the
31st December,**

Quarter ending	Districts.	Caravan Taxes.	Maintenance Tax.	Slaughtering Fees.	Court Fees and Fines.
1901. 31st March ...	White Volta District.	£ s. d. 874 11 0	£ s. d. 195 0 0	£ s. d. 32 16 0	£ s. d. 32 11 0
30th June ...	"	41 0 0	102 1 0	29 5 0	36 0 0
30th September	"	41 8 9	25 19 0	34 2 0	37 15 6
31st December	"	186 4 6	5 0 0	31 1 6	114 2 6
		642 19 3	323 0 0	127 4 6	220 9 0
1901. 31st March ...	Black Volta District.	380 17 3	228 8 0	11 14 0	0 10 0
30th June ...	"	108 19 9	341 5 0	11 12 0	1 17 0
30th September	"	75 6 0	79 18 0	11 18 6	1 7 0
31st December	"	263 17 0	—	9 14 0	6 0 0
		829 0 0	649 11 0	44 18 6	9 14 0
Paid in England by the Wa Syndicate, Limited,					
1901. 31st March ...	Kintampo District.	1,265 17 6	40 0 0	23 8 6	39 1 0
30th June ...	"	413 16 3	—	22 8 0	17 11 0
30th September	"	169 1 9	—	15 19 3	18 2 6
31st December	"	390 8 3	—	11 0 9	33 2 3
		2,248 18 9	40 0 0	72 18 6	107 16 9
	Grand Total	8,716 13 0	1,017 11 0	244 19 6	337 19 9

Gambaga,
28th February, 1902

REVENUE

NORTHERN TERRITORIES during the YEAR ending 1901.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST 1901.

Sale of Trade Goods.	Sale of Livestock.	Sale of Rations.	Sale of Stamps, Cards, Envelopes, and Duty on Parcels.	Ferry Dues.	Officers employed Carriers as Servants.	Total Revenue received.
£ s. d. 21 0 0	£ s. d. 5 14 6	£ s. d. 20 18 5½	£ s. d. —	£ s. d. —	£ s. d. 4 0 0	£ s. d. 686 10 11½
203 16 0	74 12 6	82 19 2	—	5 2 3	—	523 15 11
297 11 9	89 10 0	71 10 7	0 19 9	9 0 0	—	607 12 4
98 18 6	67 12 6	84 18 8	2 9 10	14 1 0	—	549 4 0
615 1 8	287 9 6	160 6 10½	8 9 7	28 3 8	4 0 0	2,867 8 2½
0 19 6	5 8 0	12 1 1	—	—	—	689 17 10
0 8 6	12 12 0	7 16 7	—	—	—	484 10 10
—	7 2 6	2 10 0	—	—	—	178 2 0
12 14 9	—	5 1 9	0 0 6	7 1 0	—	804 9 0
14 2 9	25 2 6	27 9 5	0 0 6	7 1 0	—	1,606 18 8
for Rights of Option over 400 square miles of the Northern Territories... 800 0 0						
0 8 0	—	7 18 7	17 0 3	—	—	1,398 8 10
8 16 8	—	26 14 8	9 1 9	—	—	497 17 6
28 12 6	—	27 11 2	8 15 4	—	2 5 4	265 7 10
4 17 6	—	87 2 5	7 17 1	—	—	484 8 8
82 14 8	—	99 1 5	42 14 5	—	2 5 4	2,641 2 5
661 18 3	262 12 0	286 17 8½	46 4 6	35 4 3	6 5 4	7,415 4 8

A. MORRIS, Lieut.-Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,

Northern Territories, Gold Coast.

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.

RETURN of ANIMALS and LOADS on which TAXES have
for the

Quarter ending	Districts.	Horses.	Cattle.	Calves.	Donkeys.	Sheep.	Lamba.
1901. 31st March ...	White Volta District.	61	787	—	1,122	4,784	—
30th June ...	"	5	65	—	82	880	—
30th September ...	"	1	126	—	7	185	1
31st December ...	"	16	464	—	440	2,198	—
		83	1,892	—	1,651	7,492	1
1901. 31st March ...	Black Volta District.	28	561	11	782	5,122	55
30th June ...	"	6	285	11	98	1,286	21
30th September ...	"	2	221	—	6	849	2
31st December ...	"	7	702	—	558	3,482	4
		43	1,719	22	1,444	10,689	82
1901. 31st March ...	Kintampo District	87	814	—	626	7,543	—
30th June ...	"	4	242	—	57	1,296	—
30th September ...	"	—	21	—	1	293	—
31st December ...	"	3	807	—	87	1,870	—
		44	1,884	—	771	10,502	—
	Grand Total...	170	4,495	22	3,866	28,683	83

Gambaga,
28th February, 1902.

been COLLECTED in the NORTHERN TERRITORIES
YEAR 1901.

NORTHERN
TERRI-
TORIES OF
THE
GOLD COAST,
1901.
— —

Loads.								Amount.
Kola Nuts.	Salt.	Cloth.	Beads.	Cowries.	Donkeys carrying Miscellaneous Loads.	Hoes.	Miscellaneous.	
77	44	51	—	—	—	—	—	£ s. d. 374 11 0
62	84	22	—	—	—	5	—	41 0 0
48	48	74	—	—	—	2	—	41 3 9
25	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	186 4 6
212	165	147	—	—	—	7	—	642 19 3
356	381	51	4	2	—	8	—	380 17 3
—	102	4	4	—	—	—	—	108 19 9
88	168	2	—	—	—	—	—	75 6 0
24	91	32	—	—	—	—	—	263 17 0
418	687	89	8	2	—	8	—	829 0 0
5,414	108	269	7	2	1,407	—	242	1,265 17 6
1,868	108	417	1	—	468	—	94	418 6 3
998	75	254	11	80	23	—	189½	169 1 9
2,009	83	214	21	2½	181	—	345	890 8 8
10,284	824	1,154	40	34½	2,079	—	820½	2,243 13 9
10,909	1,176	1,390	48	36½	2,079	15	820½	8,715 13 0

A. MORRIS, Lieut.-Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories, Gold Coast.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST, 1901. **RETURN showing SALE of GOVERNMENT TRADE GOODS in the NORTHERN TERRITORIES during the YEAR 1901.**

Quarter ending	Districts.	Amount.	Remarks.
1901.		£ s. d.	
31st March	White Volta District	21 0 0	
30th June	" "	202 16 0	
30th September ...	" "	297 11 9	
31st December ...	" "	93 13 6	
		615 1 3	
1901.			
31st March	Black Volta District	0 19 6	
30th June	" "	0 8 6	
30th September ...	" "	—	
31st December ...	" "	12 14 9	
		14 2 9	
1901.			
31st March	Kintampo District	0 8 0	
30th June	" "	3 16 3	
30th September ...	" "	23 12 6	
31st December ...	" "	4 17 6	
		32 14 3	
	Grand Total ...	661 18 3	

A. MORRIS, Lieut.-Colonel,
 Gambaga, Chief Commissioner,
 28th February, 1902. Northern Territories.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD, 34-40, BACON STREET, E.
1902.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 345.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1900.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 316.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1901.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.
And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1901.

[Cd. 788-15.] *Price 2½d.*

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
323	St. Helena	1900
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"
326	Barbados	"
327	Bahamas	"
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
336	British New Guinea	1899-1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar	1900
343	Basutoland	1900-1901
344	Gold Coast	1900

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Report for 1896-1900
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 345.

GRENADA
1900
—

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1899, see No. 316.)

GOVERNOR SIR R. B. LLEWELYN to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Grenada,
7th November, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1900, prepared by Mr. E. Drayton.

I have, &c.,
R. B. LLEWELYN,
Governor.

GRENADA,
1900.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1900.

FINANCIAL.

REVENUE.

The General Revenue of the year 1900 amounted to £70,363, of which £700 was a grant in aid of the Botanic Station from Imperial funds, so that the revenue from local sources was £69,663, being the largest on record.

The General Revenue for the last five years was as follows:—

Year.					Amount.
					£
1896	...	...	...	...	56,275
1897	...	...	...	...	56,973
1898	...	...	...	...	62,875
1899	...	...	...	...	68,757
1900	...	...	...	...	70,363

2. The subjoined comparative statement of the revenue in 1899 and 1900 shows that the improved results of the latter year are due to better collection of internal revenue, chiefly the land and house taxes, and to sales of escheated properties, and of a portion of a mountain estate, purchased for conservation in forest, that part of it not required for such purposes being re-sold.

On the other hand, Customs Revenue declined by £1,565, as a consequence of the abolition at the commencement of the year of the 10 per cent. additional import duty which had been imposed to meet the financial difficulties of the four preceding years.

Head of Revenue.	1900.	1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs	36,584	38,148	—	1,564
2. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue.	26,497	24,966	1,531	—
3. Fees of Office, &c. ...	1,369	1,340	29	—
Carried forward ...	64,450	64,454	1,560	1,564

Customs Revenue—cont.

GRENADA,
1900

Head of Revenue.	1900.	1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward ...	64,450	64,454	1,560	1,564
4. Post Office	1,089	787	302	—
5. Sale of Commemoration Stamps.	18	76	—	58
6. Telephones	1,150	1,149	1	—
7. Rent of Government Pro- perty.	435	426	9	—
8. Refund of Interest and Sinking Funds.	950	965	—	15
9. Miscellaneous Receipts ...	242	100	142	—
10. Land Sales	1,329	88	1,241	—
11. Grant in aid of Botanical Station.	700	712	—	12
Total	70,363	68,757	3,255	1,649

EXPENDITURE.

3. The General Expenditure of 1900 amounted to £62,718, of which £932 was in respect of the Botanic Station; and the Expenditure for the last five years was as follows:—

Year.					Amount.
					£
1896	...	...	...	...	60,523
1897	...	...	...	...	58,549
1898	...	...	...	...	57,612
1899	...	...	...	...	59,359
1900	...	...	...	...	62,718

GRENADA,
1900.

4. The comparison of the details of the expenditure of 1900 with that of 1899, given below, shows an increase under nearly every head, the total increase being £3,359.

Head of Expenditure.	1900.	1899.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Charge on Account of Public Debt.	6,429	6,430	—	1
2. Pensions	1,500	1,057	443	—
3. The Governor and Legislature.	2,135	2,135	—	—
4. Colonial Secretary	1,897	1,817	80	—
5. Treasury, Customs, Post Office, &c.	5,763	5,488	275	—
6. Audit Department	493	520	—	27
7. Legal Departments	5,367	5,012	355	—
8. Police and Excise Department.	5,017	4,711	306	—
9. Prisons	1,083	1,120	—	37
10. Medical Department	7,444	7,415	29	—
11. Education	6,268	5,926	342	—
12. Ecclesiastical... ..	486	496	—	10
13. Charitable	511	445	66	—
14. Telephone Department	1,245	1,157	88	—
15. Miscellaneous Services	3,864	3,713	151	—
16. Public Works Department...	792	740	52	—
17. Public Works Recurrent	8,323	8,042	281	—
18. Public Works Extraordinary	3,169	2,474	695	—
	61,786	58,698	3,163	74
19. Agricultural Department	932	661	271	—
Total	62,718	59,359	3,434	74

5. Under Pensions, the increase is attributable to £300 granted in compassionate allowances to widows and children of

deceased, public officers and to two new pensioners; under Treasury and Post Office, to heavy payments on account of postal transit charges; under Legal Departments, to the appointment of a Registrar with increased salary, to heavy expenses for Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court, and for Escheats, and to the holding of a Session of the Circuit Court of Appeal; under Education, to increased grant in aid of Primary Education, £5,004 being spent as against £4,652 in 1899; under Miscellaneous, to a grant of £150 to the School of Tropical Medicine; and under Public Works, to larger amount of works executed.

GRENADA
1900.
—

CHANGES IN TAXATION.

6. The additional import duty, at the rate of 10 per cent. on all import duties paid, which had been imposed since 1896 to assist in meeting the financial difficulties of the Colony, was, in accordance with the promise to that effect given by the Government at the time of its imposition, abandoned at the end of 1899, as the accounts of that year closed with a large surplus of assets.

GRENADA,
1900.

ASSETS AND

7. After writing off the sum of £4,344, being irrecoverable the surplus of colonial assets at the end of the year was £16,423,

ASSETS.			
	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury Chest... ..			1,369 12 10
Cash in Colonial Bank—			
On Deposit Account	*7,154	9	8
On Current Account	7,684	4	9
			14,838 14 5
Crown Agents for the Colonies—			
Advance Account	2,000	0	0
Surplus Fund Account	†5,000	0	0
Remittances in Transit	2,000	0	0
			9,000 0 0
Investments—			
South Australia Government 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock (nominal value £3,804 19s. 11d.).	4,000	0	0
Victoria 3 per cent. Stock (nominal value £2,094 3s. 10d.).	2,000	0	0
Government of British Guiana ...	500	0	0
			†6,500 0 0
Advances representing amounts due to the Colony or expenditure not yet brought to account—			
Loans to Parochial Boards from General Revenue.	893	5	2
Distillery Apparatus Advance Account.	1	8	3
Government of St. Vincent	441	18	2
Government of St. Lucia	592	15	8
Other advances	486	12	2
			2,415 19 5
Arrears of Revenue—			
Interest on Loans to Parochial Boards Arrears Account.	597	11	8
Sinking Funds on Loans to Parochial Boards Arrears Account.	163	6	5
			760 18 1
Total Assets			34,885 4 9

N.B.—The value of Stores at the Public Works Department is estimated at £643 7s. 7d.

* £4,500 Savings Bank Funds, £624 9s. 8d. Sinking Fund St. George's Town Board, and £2,030 Colony's Reserve Fund. † For Colony's Reserve Fund. ‡ Savings Bank Funds.

LIABILITIES.**GRENADE,
1900**loans and loan charges due from certain of the Town Boards,
as shown in the following statement:—

LIABILITIES.						
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Crown Agents for the Colonies—						
Current Account				1,823	11	5
Deposits as follows—						
Supreme Court Account	905	17	5			
Post Office Account (Money Orders, &c.)	666	3	4			
Parochial Boards Loan Works Account.	886	1	10			
Public Works	903	3	7			
Governor in Chief's Office Fund ...	40	17	4			
St. George's Town Fund	290	6	9			
St. Paul's Water Supply Account	823	4	2			
Suspense Account	0	1	2			
Savings Bank Account	11,168	15	5			
Other Deposits	330	1	2			
				16,014	12	2
Sinking Fund St. George's Town Board for repayment of the Loan of £1,000 from the Barbados Mutual Life Assurance Company Limited.				624	9	8
Total Liabilities... ..				18,462	13	3
Surplus Assets... ..				16,422	11	6
				34,885	4	9

£11,000 Invested (*see Assets*).

GRENADA,
1900.

Of this surplus, £7,030 was set aside as the commencement of a Reserve Fund, to be held for emergencies, and as a safeguard against times of financial depression, which have been in the past of periodic occurrence.

PUBLIC DEBT.

8. The Public Debt at the close of 1900 was £127,570, of which £123,670 was 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, and £3,900 in 4½ per cent. Debentures, £100 more of the latter having been redeemed during the year. Provision is made for redemption of the debt by contributions to sinking funds at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the nominal value of the stock issued, and of 1 per cent. per annum on the total amount of debentures originally issued, the general revenue and assets of the Colony being finally liable for due repayment. The Inscribed Stock Sinking Fund at 31st December amounted to £9,443, and that for Debentures to £30; of the latter, £300 have been already retired by annual drawings.

The Colony is also liable for the repayment by the St. George's Town Board, in March, 1903, of the sum of £1,000, being a loan raised in 1879 for construction of waterworks. A sinking fund has been created by the Board, and is held by the Colonial Treasurer, amounting at end of 1900 to £625.

GRENADA
1900.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF TOWN BOARDS.

9. A comparative statement of the revenue and expenditure for the last five years of the Boards in whom the administration of the towns of the Colony is vested is appended :—

	Revenue.					Expenditure.				
	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
St. George's ..	£ 2,477	£ 3,049	£ 2,158	£ 2,576	£ 2,459	£ 1,978	£ 3,021	£ 2,033	£ 2,379	£ 2,707
Grenville ..	885	919	946	910	940	905	829	953	896	992
Sauteurs ..	449	463	480	427	540	465	412	556	411	465
Victoria ..	262	270	281	273	300	300	260	291	272	288
Gouyave ..	623	557	529	592	—*	562	604	477	631	*
Hillsborough...	133	132	128	133	133	202	125	147	123	126

* Correct returns not yet received.

GRENADA,
1900.

Town Boards' Debt.

10. The Town Boards' Debt at 31st December, 1900, stood as follows:—

St. George's ...	£7,481
Grenville ...	1,300
Sauteurs ...	1,100
Victoria ...	1,394
Gouyave ...	3,304
Hillsborough ...	600
	<hr/>
	£15,179
	<hr/>

11. At the end of 1899 these debts amounted to £27,159, but, as an indirect result of the report of the Parochial Boards Commission of 1896, which was presented on 12th January, 1900, the Grenville Waterworks Loan, £11,933, has been assumed by the Government, and another small balance outstanding against that town for a fire engine written off. Similarly, the sum of £3,687, due from the Grenville Waterworks as arrears of loan charges, together with £240 owed by the town of Gouyave in connection with their market place, and £417, advanced to Victoria for repair of jetty, were abandoned by the Government at the end of 1900 as irrecoverable.

12. The repayment of the present towns' debt is provided for either by sinking fund contributions or refund by instalments, with the exception of £200 owed by Grenville to the Colonial Treasury for a breakwater, and £150 advanced to the same Board from the same source to assist them in paying current liabilities in 1895. Measures are being taken by Government in the current year to improve the administration and finances of the towns.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

GRENADA,
1900.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

13. The Imports for the year 1900 are valued, for statistical purposes, at £232,790, and the Exports at £311,681. The corresponding figures for the four preceding years are:—

Year.			Imports.	Exports.
			£	£
1896	...	...	154,405	183,883
1897	...	...	164,356	154,439
1898	...	...	210,783	257,274
1899	...	...	226,828	267,738

In respect of Imports, therefore, the year under review was but slightly in excess of 1899, but in Exports a marked increase is shown, due to the satisfactory output in 1900 of the Colony's staples—cocoa and spices.

14. To illustrate the trade of the Colony five tables are subjoined. In the first the imports and exports for the five years ended in 1900 are divided into the usual statistical classes.

Classes.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics ...	£ 71,043	£ 76,598	£ 89,028	£ 104,440	£ 108,353	£ 175,647	£ 148,907	£ 252,263	£ 261,144	£ 303,148
Raw materials ...	11,410	10,556	16,467	18,715	21,402	6,458	4,314	4,754	4,066	6,484
Manufactured articles ...	71,952	77,102	102,028	100,548	102,342	599	274	185	1,603	1,649
Coin and bullion ...	—°	—°	3,260	3,125	693	1,179	944	72	925	400
Totals ...	154,405	164,356	210,783	226,828	232,790	183,833	154,439	257,274	267,738	311,681

° No returns.

15. In the second, the volume and direction of the trade are shown for the quinquennial period, and here it will be observed that 45 per cent. of the imports last year came from the mother country ; the corresponding percentage in 1896 was 43 ; 25 per cent. came from British Colonies, and 30 per cent. from foreign countries, according to the returns ; in 1896 these figures were 28 per cent. and 29 per cent respectively. It must be pointed out, however, that the bulk of the imports from British Colonies consists of American foodstuffs brought in from Barbados and Trinidad. While the import trade with Great Britain may thus be said to have been in 1900 at about the same rate as in 1896, the figures of exports disclose that foreign countries are now competing for a larger share of the Colony's staples, as 15 per cent. of the exports of 1900 went to them, as compared with about 5 per cent. in 1896, the percentages to the United Kingdom being 83 per cent. in 1900 and 92 per cent. in 1896.

		Imports.					Exports.					
		1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	
United Kingdom	£ 66,485	£ 78,893	£ 98,626	£ 101,922	£ 105,592	£ 169,499	£ 138,656	£ 243,574	£ 220,479	£ 259,079
British Colonies	42,504	40,126	55,254	64,603	57,628	5,790	4,283	3,307	5,631	5,399
Foreign Countries	45,416	45,337	56,903	60,304	69,570	8,594	11,500	10,393	41,923	47,208
Totals	154,405	164,356	210,783	226,829	232,790	183,883	154,439	257,274	267,738	311,681

GRENADA,
1900.

1900.
1900.

16. The next table traces the foreign trade to the countries with which it is carried on, and here the strides made by the United States of America are worthy of notice, that country claiming 96 per cent. of the imports and 67 per cent. of the exports from and to foreign countries in 1900. When, in connection with the imports, the remarks in the preceding paragraph as to the true nature of the bulk of the Colony's trade with British Colonies are borne in mind, the actual position of the import trade with the United States will be realised. In the past this trade consisted principally of foodstuffs and petroleum, but there is ample evidence that an increasing quantity of manufactured articles is now finding its way in, displacing the corresponding class of British manufactures. This tendency is due not to want of appreciation locally of British manufactures, but to the great advantages enjoyed by the American imports in point of rapid transit, cheaper freight, and lower charges for packing, behind which also lies the well directed advertisement continually employed by the American exporter. The first two are, for the present at all events, beyond the power of the British merchant to compete with, especially as the Colony enjoys the advantage of direct steam service three times a month with New York, but greater attention on his part to packing and advertisement might attract a large share of West Indian trade.

17. The rapidly increasing consumption by the United States of the Colony's staples is one of the most promising guarantees of the future prosperity of Grenada. In 1896 the cocoa exported thither was valued at £4,752, and the spices at £1,276; in 1900 these values had advanced to £22,376 for cocoa, and £9,297 for spices. It is known that the consumption of cocoa in the United States has in the last five years about doubled, and when the enormous population of the States realise the merits of chocolate as a sustaining beverage, as there is good reason to hope they are beginning to do, an immense market for the cocoa-producing Colonies of the West Indies will be opened up. Similar remarks apply to British North America, as yet unexploited in this respect.

18. As has been remarked in previous reports, the statistics of the cocoa export to France are not quite reliable. A certain quantity of the Colony's cocoa is shipped to Havre, "optional" for London, and the Customs authorities have no means of ascertaining how much, if any, actually finds its way into France.

GRENADA
1900.

10847

Foreign Countries.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
United States of America ...	£ 44,873	£ 44,529	£ 56,073	£ 57,638	£ 66,572	£ 6,300	£ 8,106	£ 8,829	£ 13,945	£ 31,875
France and French Colonies ...	264	381	350	1,330	1,623	2,107	3,026	1,335	25,427	14,249
Holland and Dutch Colonies ...	168	67	234	627	798	—	9	—	186	313
Denmark and Danish Colonies ...	21	360	207	514	34	—	—	—	1	—
Venezuela ...	89	—	38	6	372	146	59	229	2,064	762
Germany ...	—	—	—	151	163	41	300	—	—	—
Other Countries ...	1	—	—	38	8	—	—	—	—	4
Totals ...	45,416	45,337	56,902	60,304	69,570	8,594	11,500	10,393	41,623	47,203

GRENADA,
1900.

19. The fourth table exhibits the chief articles imported in 1900, and compares their values with those in 1899; the variations are unimportant, and require no comment.

Chief Articles Imported.	Value.	
	1899.	1900.
	£	£
CLASS I.—		
Live animals	2,236	2,451
Bread of all kinds	1,995	1,945
Butter	1,987	1,502
Cheese	1,146	977
Fish (dried or preserved, including salmon and mackerel)	13,721	11,781
Flour (wheaten)	25,167	28,500
Lard	1,539	1,842
Malt liquor	1,829	2,311
Meal (corn)	1,043	1,214
Meat (salted or preserved)	9,540	9,584
Medicinal extracts, and preparations	1,804	2,218
Molasses	3,142	1,077
Oats	2,757	2,839
Oil (olive and others for cooking)	2,705	2,916
Oleomargarine, &c.	3,477	3,133
Rice	3,974	4,949
Spirits	4,477	5,845
Sugar (refined)	3,416	4,544
Do. (Muscovado)	6,860	5,074
Wines	2,292	2,229
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes	2,546	3,001
CLASS II.—		
Coal	398	1,392
Leather	1,148	1,517

Fourth Table—cont.

GRENADA
1900.

Chief Articles Imported.	Value.	
	1899.	1900.
	£	£
Class II.— <i>cont.</i>		
Manures	1,817	1,994
Petroleum oil... ..	2,878	3,423
Timber and shingles	11,132	12,681
Class III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery	6,920	5,708
Textiles (unenumerated)	46,484	47,733
Rope and cordage	1,305	1,458
Metal manufactures	15,290	16,337
Books	1,201	897
Soap	3,301	3,587
Stationery	1,017	1,233
Cement	1,191	1,554
Earthen and glassware	3,411	3,576
Furniture	1,838	1,235
Leather (manufactured)—		
Boots and shoes	4,674	5,266
Other	1,594	1,249

20. In the fifth table are shown the values of the principal articles of local produce exported in the five years 1896-1900, and here the satisfactory results of the last year again appear, an increase being shown under most items. Coffee and logwood seem to be disappearing from the exports, while kola nuts show an unexplained rise, which it is hoped may continue, as the Colony is capable of doing much in this direction. The statistics of Fruit are not reliable, as under existing arrangements a

GRENADA, 1900. considerable proportion of this export does not find its way into the returns.

Produce Exported.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
Cocoa	159,519	132,642	227,655	234,611	269,931
Spices	12,424	13,503	22,107	21,761	30,153
Cotton and cotton seed ...	4,474	2,720	3,134	2,641	4,622
Live stock	1,304	1,230	1,211	1,088	1,133
Firewood	538	605	476	513	560
Fruit	880	540	427	672	404
Poultry	235	226	166	497	283
Turtle and turtle shell ...	291	270	406	337	267
Kola nuts	180	88	43	96	203
Coffee	217	283	59	13	5
Logwood	372	302	54	25	39

MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

21. There are no mines, and the only manufactures are those of muscovado sugar (mostly of low grade) and of rum, for local consumption. No record of the sugar made is available, but the quantity of rum made in each of the last five years is given below, and, for convenience of reference, the amount of excise duty collected thereon is also shown:—

Year.	Quantity.	Excise Duty.
	Gallons.	£
1896	52,895	11,188
1897	57,406	11,448
1898	32,662	12,478
1899	48,477	10,605
1900	47,942	11,327

It hence appears that the output last year was 535 gallons less than in 1899, and that the manufacture generally has not yet recovered the position it had reached in 1897, the record year. It is also seen that the duty collected in any year appears to depend upon the quantity distilled in the preceding year. None of this rum is exported. There were 16 distilleries at work during the year.

GRENADA,
1900.

22. There are no fisheries, properly so called. Fish abounds on the coasts, and considerable quantities are caught daily for local consumption. During the whaling season—January-March—some attempt is made by fishermen on the south-western coast to capture whales, but the efforts made are half-hearted and frequently fail. In 1900 two whales were killed, and 1,381 gallons of whale oil are shown as having been exported.

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

23. The crop of the staple produce of the Colony for the year ended 30th September, 1900, was as follows:—

Crop.	Produce.
Cocoa	53,388 bags.
Spices	3,428 barrels.
	1,224 half barrels.
	931 cases.
	49 bags.
Coffee	134 bags.
Cotton... ..	995 bales.
Cotton seed	5,816 bags.

The cocoa crop was a good one, being 1,247 bags in excess of that for the preceding year, but it fell short by 2,277 bags of the record crop, that of 1894. It is a matter for surprise that with the great extension of cocoa cultivation in Grenada the output should only have doubled itself in the last twenty years. Much is perhaps attributable to the old trees not yielding so vigorously, but the chief cause is undoubtedly that a very large area of the cultivation is in the hands of

GRENADE
1900.

peasant proprietors who continue to follow crude methods both of cultivation and curing. An Agricultural Instructor is about to be appointed by the Government in the hope of improving this defect, and the efforts being made in the direction of agricultural education in the primary schools will doubtless also be of assistance to this end.

Prices were favourable during the year, the London market opening with cocoa at 64s. to 70s., and closing at 70s. to 73s. 6d.

24. On account of the variety of packages used for export it is difficult to compare the *crops* of spices, so that it is necessary to refer to the recorded exports, and these disclose the following results:—

Average for five years ended 1897	2,533 cwt.
1898 	4,373 „
1899 	5,005 „
1900 	6,687 „

There is, therefore, a steady increase in the output of spices, which are chiefly nutmegs, 5,887 cwt. of the total export in 1900 being of that description.

The cultivation of this tree is principally in the hands of large proprietors, and much care and attention are bestowed upon it.

25. The coffee reaped is now consumed locally, as prices are so low that it no longer pays to export it, and during 1900 only 1 cwt. found its way to the United States of America.

26. The crop of cotton and cotton seed, which is the product of Carriacou, a dependency of Grenada, was good, 2,628 cwt. of cotton and 5,334 cwt. of seed, valued at £4,622, being exported, as compared with 1,768 cwt. of cotton and 4,114 cwt. of seed, valued at £2,641, in the preceding year.

PEASANT PROPRIETARY.

27. As connected with the agricultural development of the Colony, and lying at the root of its material prosperity, some account may here be included of the position of the peasant proprietary of Grenada. It has been erroneously stated in certain quarters that this valuable body is on the decrease, their property being gradually absorbed by the large estates. That this is not the case is conclusively shown by the following comparative statement for the last seven years, from which it will be seen that the total number of land proprietors whose holdings do not exceed ten acres has steadily increased from 6,120 in 1894 to 8,176 in 1900. Further, it will be observed that of this latter total no less than 79 per cent. were holdings of not more

than $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and that the chief growth in the seven years has been of this class:—

GRENADA
1900.

Year.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ acres and under.	Over $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres to 5 acres.	Over 5 acres to 7 acres.	Over 7 acres to 10 acres.	Total.
1894	4,476	1,171	275	198	6,120
1895	4,912	1,074	275	201	6,462
1896	5,077	1,111	260	209	6,657
1897	5,078	1,102	262	202	6,644
1898	6,046	1,192	279	198	7,715
1899	6,198	1,193	308	213	7,912
1900	6,453	1,206	295	222	8,176

28. There can, therefore, be no doubt of the existence in a healthy condition of this important body. The problem of the future is how best to educate them, agriculturally, to the level of their possibilities, so as to make them of the most effective use to themselves and to their country. With a view to the future, too much stress cannot be laid upon the importance of agricultural instruction in the primary schools; but in the present much can be done, if the right man can be found for the work, by advice and practical demonstrations from a competent instructor, visiting the peasants' holdings, and communicating with them sympathetically. The Grenada labourer will not as a rule go out of his way to look at object lessons in agriculture, but gives a willing ear to advice brought home to him in regard to his own property.

BOTANIC STATION.

29. The Botanic Station has, since the 1st of October, 1898, been under the charge of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, and is supported by Imperial funds, although expenditure on improvements still takes place from Colonial funds. The following extracts are made from a brief review by Dr. Morris of the Curator's annual report for 1900:—

“It is observed that the cost of upkeep of the garden during 1900 was £811 0s. 5d., an increase over the expenditure for

GRENADA, "1899 of £150 11s. 9d., while the receipts for the sale of plants
1900. "were £50 9s. 1d., or £33 6s. 11d. less than those of the
"previous year."

"An interesting feature in connection with the work of the
"Botanic Station during 1900 was the establishment of seven
"experimental cacao plots in various parts of the island under
"the control of the Curator and other officers of the Imperial
"Department of Agriculture."

"The report is on the whole of a favourable character, and
"indicates an evident desire on the part of the Curator to
"constitientiously carry out the duties entrusted to him."

SHIPPING.

30. The following is a comparative statement of the total shipping, inwards and outwards, for the last five years, according to the Blue Book returns. From these figures it would seem that, as regards shipping entered, the year 1900 was up to the average, while, as regards shipping cleared, it was much below the average:—

Year.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	Tonnage.			Tonnage.		
1896	221,395			224,333		
1897	220,179			223,629		
1898	216,192			218,006		
1899	232,437			231,611		
1900	222,899			216,110		
Average	222,620			222,738		

31. Details of the shipping for the last two years, according to the returns, are contained in the subjoined statement, which also shows the nationality of the vessels. The chief point of interest in this table is the disappearance of the steam tonnage under the American and Norwegian flags, due to the sale of

a regular trader with the Colony, of American registration, and the temporary substitution for her of a steamer belonging to Norway.

Nationality.	Tonnage Entered.				Tonnage Cleared.							
	1899.		1900.		1899.		1900.					
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.			
British ...	185,554	9,520	195,074	206,405	10,485	216,890	185,155	9,203	194,358	200,255	10,728	210,983
Foreign ...	35,561	1,802	37,363	4,204	1,807	6,009	35,453	1,800	37,253	3,304	1,823	5,127
Viz. :—												
U. S. of America ...	23,389	420	23,809	—	436	436	21,639	419	22,058	—	436	436
Holland ...	—	866	866	—	229	229	—	866	866	—	247	247
Venezuela ...	—	516	516	604	788	1,392	—	515	515	604	788	1,392
Norway... ..	12,172	—	12,172	3,600	352	3,952	13,814	—	13,814	2,700	352	3,062

**GRENADA,
1900.**

CHINA, 1900.

LEGISLATION.

32. Seventeen Ordinances were enacted during the year, of which the most important measures were:—

The Tenants Compensation Ordinance, to enable occupiers of land to obtain compensation for improvements made by them on the land occupied.

The Volunteer Ordinance, making it lawful for the Governor, on behalf of the Sovereign, to accept the services of any persons desiring to be formed into a Volunteer Corps and offering their services for a term of three years, and providing for the due regulation and discipline of the body so formed.

The Marriage Ordinance, to consolidate and amend the local laws relating to marriage, and to provide for the appointment of marriage officers and proper registration.

The Agricultural Interests Protection Ordinance, to prevent the introduction and to provide for the eradication of diseases affecting vegetation.

The Marriage Ordinance has not yet been brought into operation, as it was found necessary to amend certain of its provisions before it could be enforced.

EDUCATION.

PRIMARY.

33. There are two classes of primary schools—Government, entirely supported from colonial revenue, and Grant-in-Aid, receiving contributions from public funds. The system in force is one of payment by results, grants being paid to teachers from the Colonial Treasury monthly upon the certificates of the school managers (who are usually the clergy of the several religious denominations), based upon the educational results of the schools as shown by an annual examination by the Inspector, who is a Government officer. Managers are also paid a grant at the rate of 1s. per annum for each pupil who attends school on not less than 100 days in the year, this grant being intended to assist them in supplying school furniture and apparatus. They are further allowed to receive the whole of the school fees paid by the pupils, which are, however, but indifferently collected. The administration of the system is under the control of a Board, composed of equal numbers of Roman Catholic and non-Roman Catholic members, the Governor presiding, but allowed only a casting vote.

34. The chief statistics relating to primary education in the Colony are summarised for the last two years in the following table. It will be observed that the Government contributions are on the increase, that there are no voluntary contributions, so that the title of "Grant-in-Aid" Schools appears to be a misnomer, and that school fees have decreased from £505 in 1899 to £397 in 1900.

Primary Schools.

Description of School.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.			Income.			Expenditure.	
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.		Voluntary Contributions.
Government Schools	9	1,073	957	2,030	1,098	£ 124	£ 1,269	£ —	£ 1,392
Grant-in-aid Schools :—									
Anglican ...	7	946	811	1,757	935	106	941	—	1,047
Roman Catholic...	18	2,336	2,525	4,861	2,153	114	2,091	—	2,201
Wesleyan	4	502	350	852	443	47	531	—	578
Church of Scotland	2	125	106	231	115	6	116	—	122
Miscellaneous receipts and disbursements	—	—	—	—	—	—	59	—	59
Totals for 1900 ...	40	4,982	4,749	9,731	4,744	397	5,007	—	5,404
" " 1899 ...	40	4,748	4,492	9,240	4,817	505	4,655	—	5,159
Increase in 1900	—	234	257	491	—	—	352	—	245
Decrease in 1900	—	—	—	—	73	108	—	—	—

GREENADA,
1900.

GREENADA,
1900.

SECONDARY.

35. There are three schools of secondary education, one for boys and two for girls, one of the latter being attached to the Roman Catholic Convent in St. George's. The boys' school receives a fixed grant of £250 per annum from public funds, as well as a result grant of £5 per head on each pupil who obtains not less than half marks at the annual examination. The girls' schools receive each a grant of £2 per pupil, based on the average daily attendance, but not to exceed £100 per annum each; they are examined annually by an officer appointed and paid by Government. A comparative statement of the leading statistics relating to the secondary schools for the last two years is subjoined:—

Secondary Schools.

Description of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Roll.				Income.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	Expenditure.
Grant-in-Aid Schools:—								
St. George's Grammar School ...	34	—	34	30	£ 163	£ 430	£ 13	£ 631
Girls' High School ...	—	40	40	35	141	54	—	227
St. Joseph's Convent School ...	11	70	81	66	177	100	110	387
Totals for 1900 ...	45	110	155	131	481	584	123	1,245
" " 1899 ...	56	111	167	143	547	595	55	1,064
Increase in 1900 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	68	181
Decrease in 1900... ..	11	1	12	12	66	11	—	—

36. There are no industrial, technical, or agricultural schools at present, but the question of agricultural education is not being lost sight of, and it is hoped that before long the curriculum of the primary schools will include at all events elementary instruction in this subject. In the meanwhile, as the first step to that end, two courses of lectures were given to primary school teachers in 1900 by the Imperial Department of Agriculture, with the cordial co-operation of the Government and all concerned. The lectures were well attended, and the subsequent examinations held showed that they had been successful in their object. The lectures were accompanied by practical demonstrations given to the teachers at the Botanic Station. A law has been passed in the current year making it one of the conditions of future grants to primary schools that provision is made to the satisfaction of the Board of Education for Instruction in Agriculture, and a Committee has been appointed to prepare regulations.

GRENADA,
1900.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

COLONY HOSPITAL.

37. The number of patients treated during the year was 850, of whom 512 were discharged cured, 193 relieved or not improved, 65 died, and 80 remained in hospital at the end of the year; the daily average was 83, and the daily cost per head a little more than a shilling. The general health of the institution was good, with the exception of an outbreak of influenza while it was epidemic in the island. The amount received from patients paying fees for their treatment was £168, the number of such cases being 100. The erection of a new operating room and of an administration building, to contain office, dispensary, &c., was commenced.

YAWS HOSPITAL.

38. One hundred and eighty-three patients were treated in the year, being an increase of 47 on the previous year. 105 persons were discharged cured, six relieved, and two died from nephritis, 60 being carried over to 1901 for treatment; the daily average was 63, and the daily cost per head about sixpence. The treatment of the disease by thyroid has been abandoned, having been found to give no good results, and the usual treatment by a preparation of arsenic and iodide of mercury has been resumed.

GREENADA,
1900.

CARRIACOU DISTRICT HOSPITAL.

39. This hospital appears to have done but little service during the year, and very little care seems to have been bestowed upon it by those concerned. Only 67 cases were dealt with, of which 27 were discharged as cured, 21 relieved, 2 died, and 17 remained on; the daily average was 7.

ST. ANDREW'S DISTRICT HOSPITAL.

40. At this institution 147 patients were treated during the year, of whom 108 were discharged as cured, 24 as relieved, 5 died, and 10 remained on to the next year; the daily average was 10, and the gross cost £551, against which should be set the dispensary receipts, amounting to £278.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

41. One hundred and twenty-four patients were in the institution on 1st January, 1900, and 26 were admitted during the year; 18 being from Grenada, 7 from St. Vincent, and 1 from St. Lucia, four of whom were patients who had already been under treatment. Ten patients were discharged, 8 as cured, and 2 transferred to the new Asylum in Trinidad, being the cases from Tobago remaining in the Grenada Asylum since the time that Tobago was attached to the Government of the Windward Islands. 17 deaths occurred, 7 being due to diarrhoea. The daily average was 126, being six in excess of the proper accommodation of the buildings, and the daily cost per head about 8½d. The sanitary condition was satisfactory, and a structural improvement was effected by placing the latrines in annexes to the buildings, instead of, as formerly, in the wards. Influenza was prevalent in April.

POOR ASYLUM.

42. There were 43 inmates on 1st January, 1900, 19 were admitted during the year, 18 deaths occurred, and 7 left of their own free will; one male was committed to prison for a violent assault on a fellow inmate, and one female transferred to the Lunatic Asylum. The daily average was 38, and the daily cost per head about 6d. The male ward of this asylum for incurables is always full, while there are invariably many vacancies in the female ward.

SAVINGS BANK.

43. The work of the bank in the last five years is set forth in the following statement, which is a record of steady progress. Of the balance at credit of depositors on the 31st December,

1900, £11,000 was either invested in sundry Colonial Government securities or on deposit at 3 per cent. interest with the Colonial Bank:—

GRANADA,
1900.

Year.	Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits (including interest capitalised).	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance at credit of Depositors at 31st December.
		£	£	£
1896	895	5,026	5,062	6,390
1897	968	6,498	5,518	7,370
1898	1,053	7,803	6,722	8,451
1899	1,215	9,474	7,000	10,925
1900	1,387	9,379	9,136	11,168

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

POLICE.

44. The Police Force comprises a chief and sergeant-major of European birth and military training and 63 West Indian non-commissioned officers and privates; it is maintained on a semi-military footing, and is armed with Martini-Henry rifles, a regular annual course of musketry being enforced. It is also (with the assistance of a Superintendent of Excise) charged with the supervision and control of the distillation of rum and the collection of the excise duty thereon, and in the principal town the detachment on duty is responsible for fire brigade duty. The conduct and discipline of the Force in 1900 were good.

PRISONS.

45. Only 189 persons were committed to prison in 1900; 157 being convicted prisoners, 2 debtors, and 30 for safe custody, &c.; of these 6 were convicts from the St. Vincent prison, transferred here for imprisonment in accordance with an arrangement arrived at between the Colonies. The daily average in prison was 41, that is to say, less than half of the highest daily average yet reached, which was in 1894. The cost of the prisons was £1,089, and the value of the work done by prisoners (which includes such work as baking all the bread and preparing the

GRENADA,
 1900.

cocoa consumed at the public institutions, and making the clothing, bedding, and mattresses therefor) was estimated to be £1,179. Good discipline was maintained during the year, and the mark system continued to work satisfactorily.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

46. The following table compares the statistics of crime in 1900 with those of the four previous years, and shows that the general improvement which has been remarked of late years continued. Out of 1,804 persons brought before the Magistrates, convictions were obtained, either summarily or before the Supreme Court, against 986; but, as showing the usually mild character of the offences committed it should be noted that only 157 of these 986 persons were sent to prison. The only offence which shows signs of increase, and it is at a moderate rate, is prædial larceny, for which 71 convictions were obtained against 61 in the previous year, and 51, the average for the three years 1896-8; and it is worthy of remark that this increase has taken place in the face of a law permitting flogging for the offence, a remedy which was applied by one Magistrate in no less than 17 cases in 1900. Another fact of importance connected with this offence is that in the majority of cases brought before the Magistrates a conviction seems to follow, the 116 cases so brought in 1900 resulting as under:—

71 convictions.

24 dismissed on merits.

21 discharged "for want of prosecution."

—	Average 1896-1898.	1899.	1900.
Magistrates' Courts :—			
Persons brought before the Magistrate...	2,384	2,148	1,804
Convictions	1,166	1,107	962
Acquittals	389	338	338
Discharged... ..	784	657	464
Committed for trial in Supreme Court...	45	46	40
Total	2,384	2,148	1,804

*Statistics of Crime—cont.*GRENADA
1900.

	Average 1896-1898.	1899.	1900.
Supreme Court :—			
Number of persons brought before the Court.	47	40	46
Convictions	30	17	24
Acquittals	13	15	17
Not prosecuted	4	8	5
Total	47	40	46
Nature of offences for which convictions were obtained :—			
Offences against the person	336	297	288
Prædial larceny	51	61	71
Other offences against property... ..	225	134	122
Other offences	586	632	506
Total	1,198	1,124	986

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

47. According to the registration records, the estimated population at 31st December, 1900, based upon the natural increase only, was 65,523; and carrying the estimate forward to the 7th April, 1901, when the census was taken, it was at that date 66,013. According to the census, however, the population was, on 7th April, 1901, only 63,458, or 2,575 less than this estimate. It is difficult to reconcile these divergent results, but they are attributed by the compiler of the census to emigration from the Colony.

48. The registration returns show a natural increase in 1900 of 1,425, the average for the preceding ten years being 1,237. The birth-rate per thousand of the mean estimated population was 40·98, the death-rate 19, and the marriage rate 5·31.

GRENADA
1900.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

49. With the exception of a severe epidemic of influenza in March-May the public health was good in 1900. The chief causes of deaths in that and the preceding year were as follows:—

Cause of Death.	1899.	1900.
Diarrhoea and dysentery ...	182	140
Fevers	71	80
Phthisis	49	77
Enteritis	33	63
Bronchitis	25	27
Pneumonia	18	34
Influenza	1	48

Diarrhoea and dysentery thus take precedence of all other causes of death. While impure water must be in many villages a prominent factor in developing these diseases, it is noteworthy that in St. David's parish, where the water supply is adversely commented upon by the District Medical Officer, only 15 deaths took place in 1899 out of 182, and in 1900 only five out of 140. In Carriacou, where the water supply is both bad and scanty, there were but six deaths in 1899 and three in 1900 from diarrhoea, none from dysentery being recorded.

SANITATION.

50. The administration of details of sanitation is entrusted to a General Board of Health, with the several Town and Road Boards as local health authorities subordinate to it. In the towns some little attention is paid to sanitation, although nothing like what the conditions demand, but in the rural districts, natural conditions appear to be relied upon as the sole remedial agents. In other words, neither in town nor in country do the local health authorities do their duty properly, and as the Central Board of Health has only had five meetings since its formation in 1895, its controlling influence is practically absent. The islands are fortunately healthy, their configuration favouring good drainage, and the prevalent sea breeze is of itself a powerful sanitary agent.

CLIMATE.

GRENADA,
1900.

51. The rainfall differs at the several stations in consequence of the shape of the island tending to a mountainous centre, so that three points are selected in illustration of the records in 1900:—

South of island	63·45 inches.
Centre „	157·33 „
North „	74·70 „

At Carriacou, an island in the extreme north of the Colony, the record is imperfect for 1900, but 54½ inches were registered in 11 months, so that about 60 inches may be estimated as the probable rainfall there for the year.

52. In connection with the epidemic of influenza above referred to, attention may be directed to the facts that between 15th March and 15th May, the approximate period of its duration, only 4·36 inches of rain fell in the south of Grenada; and that on May 17th the first rains for the season fell, 1·80 inches being recorded in the south that day, the rainfall at that station between 15th and 31st May being 6·11 inches, as compared with 35 parts only in the corresponding fortnight of 1899.

53. The mean temperature was 79·6°, the maximum, 91·5°, being on 4th October, and the minimum, 66°, on 27th June. The north-easterly trade is the prevailing wind, but in 1900 there was an unusual amount of south-easterly wind, which set in about May and attained its maximum in September.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

54. The work of the Post Office has noticeably increased in the five years 1896-1900. In the latter year there were 88,999 more letters and postcards and 685 more parcels dealt with than in 1896, and £4,725 more money orders were issued. The revenue of the office in 1900 was, however, £1,107, as compared with £1,842 in 1896, the decrease being apparently due to the introduction of penny postage.

55. The revenue of the Telephone Department was £1,150, and its expenditure (including loan charges) £1,245. It had been contemplated to make during the year many changes in the working of the department, which had outgrown its original outfit, and as the trunk lines and exchanges had been working for ten years, reconstruction was in many places requisite. The temporary removal of the manager to St. Vincent on special duty prevented anything being done, and towards the end of the year complaints were so numerous and insistent that the services of a special inspector were obtained by the Government for a report on the system. No tangible results, however, followed this report, and in the current year the necessary improvements are being effected.

GRENADA,
1900.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

56. There is no military force in the Colony. The police are drilled and trained to the use of arms, and there is a law on the statute book enabling the formation of a volunteer corps, but no such body has yet been formed.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

57. The progress of the war in South Africa deeply stirred the loyal sentiments of the colonists, and the several successes of the British arms were celebrated locally with enthusiasm. In January a public meeting was held under the presidency of Governor Sir Alfred Moloney, and subscription lists, both in cocoa and money, were opened for the War Fund, with the result that cocoa to the value of £179 and £416 in money, or £595 altogether, was remitted to England.

58. On 28th July the first steamer of the line to connect the West Indies with Canada, under a subsidy from the Imperial Government, arrived, but unfortunately one of these steamers, the "Orinoco," was, on the morning of the 2nd November, wrecked on the south-east coast of the island in returning from Tobago. This misadventure for a time retarded the work of the line, which should not fail eventually to be of much use in developing a trade with British North America.

59. On 3rd December, Sir Alfred Moloney left the Colony on his appointment to be Governor of Trinidad and Tobago, and on the 12th his successor, Sir Robert Llewelyn, previously Governor of the Gambia, was sworn in, having arrived on the previous evening.

60. The Colonial Secretary, Mr. E. Drayton, was absent from the Colony from the 16th February to the end of the year administering the Government of St. Vincent. Mr. Leslie Probyn discharged the duties of Colonial Secretary in that period, in addition to those of his substantive office of Attorney-General.

61. The year may be described as one of much prosperity for the Colony, and there is every indication that this prosperity is likely to continue. The lessons learned in the "hard times" of 1896 and 1897 have apparently been taken to heart by all concerned, with results which cannot fail to be beneficial to themselves and the whole community.

EDWARD DRAYTON,
Colonial Secretary.

Grenada,
31st October, 1901.